

March 21, 2005

CMC CONNECTION

A Monthly News Service from the Division of Communications for Norfolk Civic Organizations

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Many of you have probably heard of the fires recently in which Norfolk residents lost their lives. One fire in Monticello Village claimed the lives of two young children; a second fire in Ocean View claimed the lives of two adults. This brings the total number of fire deaths in Norfolk so far this year to five; during the past six months there have been a total of eight fire deaths. Six of the deaths were the result of fires caused by candles and two of the deaths were the result of fires caused by careless smoking. The common denominator in all of these deaths was the lack of a functioning smoke detector in the home.

Despite our best efforts at educating the public on fire safety and the need for smoke detectors, we don't seem to be reaching everyone. Therefore, I am asking you to first check the smoke detectors in your home and then to reach out to your neighbors, friends and family members and get them to check the smoke detectors in their homes.

Smoke detectors can be purchased for under \$10 at local home improvement and department stores. Installing a smoke detector on each level of your home is one of the most important things that you can do to protect your family. Once installed smoke detectors should be checked monthly and the batteries should be replaced every six months (i.e., when you change your clock, change your battery).

If someone in your neighborhood cannot afford a detector, please have them call the **Smoke Detector Hotline at 664-6616** and a representative from Norfolk Fire-Rescue will come to your house and install one for you. Please help us prevent similar tragedies in the future.

Edward Loy Senter Jr.
Fire Chief
City of Norfolk

City of Norfolk, Division of Communications
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NORFOLK TO JOIN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD TOUR

The City of Norfolk has been recognized by the National Park Service as an “Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Community”. The announcement was by Mayor Paul Fraim during a news conference on Friday, February 25 on the downtown waterfront.

During the 1840s, Fraim said the docks and wharves that lined the waterfront from the tip of Town Point Park to the Campestella Bridge served as an escape hatch for fugitive slaves. Two of the country’s most famous incidents involving escaped slaves, the George Lattimer and Shadrack Minkins cases, can trace their origins to the downtown waterfront.

“The Underground Railroad was perhaps the most dramatic protest action against slavery in the United States, and until recently, Norfolk’s role in that part of the abolition movement is something that has not been widely known or appreciated,” Mayor Fraim said. “I am pleased to announce that Norfolk’s role in the Underground Railroad is no longer one of the nation’s best kept secrets.”

The prestigious designation recognizes the significant role that the waterfront played as a gateway to the Underground Railroad (UGRR). During the 18th and 19th centuries, the waterfront was a strategic location for runaway slaves from southeastern Virginia and northeastern North Carolina who were trying to escape to freedom. According to Doctor Tommy Bogger, an author and historian, Norfolk was one of the most active ports on the Underground Railroad.

“With luck and determination, many of the runaway slaves succeeded in enlisting the aid of black crewmen who were working aboard northward-bound vessels,” Doctor Bogger said. “Several ship captains were known by local railroad agents as being sympathetic to fugitives.”

A permanent marker outlining Norfolk’s significant place in the history of the Underground Railroad will be established on the waterfront later this year.

“The marker will serve as lasting memory to those who risked their lives to achieve freedom and equality,” Doctor Bogger said. The National Park Service program will coordinate preservation and education efforts to emphasize and enhance the importance of the Underground Railroad of the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom’s 137 sites – including four in Virginia.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND CONSENT ORDER ENSURE RENEWED SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

The State Water Control Board has approved Norfolk’s Sanitary Sewer Consent Order with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Hampton

Roads Sanitation District (HRSD). Under the Consent Order, Norfolk will make \$39.4 million of improvements to its sanitary sewer system during the period of FY04-08.

Like the sewer systems of other older cities, parts of Norfolk's system date back to the 1920's. To improve the wastewater service to Norfolk's residents, the City is committed to a long-term, gradual, and predictable sewer system replacement program, regardless of the Consent Order.

Using data collected in a two-year comprehensive study of the system, the City prioritized and planned sanitary sewer system replacement projects for the next 15 years. As a result of this planning, Norfolk will renew its sewer system in the most cost-effective manner. The Consent Order requirements fit well within the City's long-term sanitary sewer capital plan and the long-term rate plan adopted by City Council in 2003. The Consent Order was approved by the board unanimously. No member of the public asked to comment.

CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZES PURCHASE OF TWA BUILDING FOR TEMPORARY SITE OF 2ND PRECINCT

City Council authorized the purchase of property located at 2500 Military Highway (formally the TWA/American Airlines Reservation Center) for the sum of \$5,531,141. This purchase has been negotiated as part of the planned relocation of the Norfolk Police Department's Second Precinct from 7665 Sewell's Point Road in advance of the construction of a Super Walmart on the site.

NORFOLK NAMES DIRECTOR FOR CITY OFFICE ON HOMELESSNESS

The City of Norfolk has appointed Catherine Ash Kitchin to head the Executive Department Office on Homelessness. Kitchin has worked for the City of Norfolk as a Program Manager in the Department of Human Services since January 2003. Previously, she served as the Federal Legislative Director for Governor Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania; as a staff member for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources; and in the Analyst, Workforce and Income Security Division of the U.S. General Accounting Office.

Kitchin's responsibilities in this new post include developing, directing and managing the City's program to end homelessness, working closely with the City's Commission to End Homelessness and serving as a liaison to other public and private agencies.

"Katie distinguished herself among a very competitive group of candidates as a social services executive with broad governmental experience, having served the Congress, the Executive Branch, state and local government. Ending homelessness in

Norfolk and, working with our colleagues, in the Hampton Roads region will require a concerted effort among federal, state, and local governments,” said Williams. “Katie has the experience to pull those resources together. She’s been a real asset to the Norfolk Human Services Department and I am confident she’ll do a wonderful job serving the homeless and our community.”

The Office on Homelessness was created in 2004 based on the recommendations of the Mayor’s Homelessness Advisory Committee and supported by City Council. The goal of the office will be to end homelessness in the City of Norfolk in 10 years and to guide the development of initiatives and programming that fulfills that objective.

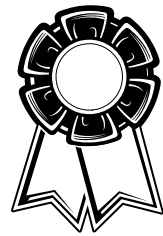
“The City of Norfolk has made ending homelessness a top priority,” said Mayor Paul D. Fraim. “Ms. Kitchin’s appointment gives us the management component needed to coordinate and communicate with the multiple agencies serving homeless citizens and I welcome her to this key position.”

“Norfolk has an impressive array of government and community-based programs, along with hundreds of staff and volunteers who are passionate about improving services to prevent homelessness,” Kitchin said. “It is a privilege to be given the opportunity to work with these dedicated individuals as the City moves forward to put a plan in motion that will lift individuals and families out of homelessness and into stable environments.”

With Kitchin on board, the City is set to develop an aggressive work plan, create partnerships in the public and private sector, as well as fully utilize and leverage our resources to eradicate homelessness in Norfolk.

13th ANNUAL CRIME PREVENTION AWARDS DINNER

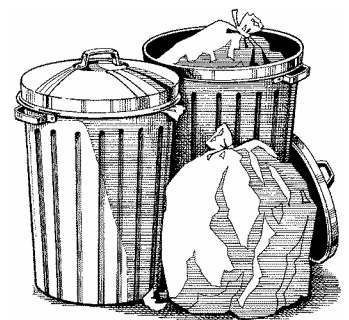
March 21, 2005; 6:30 p.m.; Norfolk Airport Hilton (Military Highway and Northampton Blvd.) Keynote Speaker: Michelle Simpson, CEO of the Hampton-based Inspiring Minds Youth Development Center, has an incredible and inspirational story to tell. You won’t want to miss her message! For more information please contact Angie Janecka at 735-2335 or 448-6123.



20TH GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP FROM MARCH TO JUNE

The Norfolk Environmental Commission (NEC) in conjunction with the national nonprofit Keep America Beautiful is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Great American Cleanup. Nationally, the 2005 Great American Cleanup™ is expected to involve an estimated 2.3 million people volunteering more than 7 million hours to clean, beautify and improve over 30,000 communities in all 50 states.

Here in Norfolk, the NEC is seeking more than 4,000 volunteers for our Great American Cleanup™ activities, which will run from



March 26 to June 11. There are several ways in which individuals, civic leagues and community based organizations groups can participate including: Keep Norfolk Beautiful Days (March 26 - April 2), Scotts Community Garden Day (April 30), Festival Recycling and Clean the Bay Day (June 11).

Staff is actively working with civic leagues and community based organizations throughout the City to heighten awareness about the Great American Cleanup campaign as well as to reach the program goals for 2005.

HIV FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

City Council has authorized acceptance of up to \$5,168,622 federal grant money through the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act of 1990, as amended. The act provides emergency assistance to localities that are most severely impacted by the HIV epidemic. Additionally, Title I authorizes grants for outpatient and ambulatory health and support services to (Eligible Metropolitan Areas) who have reported more than 2,000 cases of AIDS in the preceding five years and have a population of at least 500,000.

The area encompassed in the EMA includes: Currituck County, NC; Gloucester County, VA; Isle of Wight, VA; James City County, VA; Mathews County, VA; York County, VA; Poquoson, VA; Williamsburg, VA; Newport News, VA; Hampton, VA; Norfolk, VA; Virginia Beach, VA; Chesapeake, VA; Portsmouth, VA and Suffolk, VA.

The Chief Elected Official of the most impacted jurisdiction (Norfolk) has the responsibility of administering all aspects of the Title I Ryan White CARE Act for the EMA, ensuring that all legal requirements are met and of bringing together a local planning and decision-making process that meets the Title I guidelines.

Mandated under the legislation, the Greater Hampton Roads HIV/AIDS Health Services Planning Council conducted a needs assessment and developed priorities for service. The receipt of these funds under Title I Ryan White CARE Act will continue to address these needs.

WHAT TYPES OF WATER- AND SEWER- RELATED INFORMATION AND SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACCESS VIA THE INTERNET?

The Norfolk Department of Utilities would like your input. We want to improve the Department of Utilities' website to better serve you. You can access this website at www.norfolk.gov/utilities.



You are invited to participate in the **Utilities' E-Government Customer Focus-Group**. Please join us on **Thursday, April 7th from 6:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** This meeting will be held on the 10th floor of City Hall. Pizza, salad, and beverages will be provided for dinner. Please park in the City Hall Parking Garage and bring in your parking ticket and we will stamp it to provide complimentary parking.

Reservations for this focus group are required. Call Melanie Pesola, Management Services Administrator, at 664-6758 to register your attendance by March 28.

You can play an important role in improving water- and sewer-related customer services on the Utilities web site. Thank you for considering spending less than two hours to help shape the future of your water- and sewer-related online services.

If you have any questions, please call Melanie Pesola at 664-6758, or send an email to melanie.pesola@norfolk.gov. You can also make your reservation by email.

Please Join Us!
The Department of Utilities
E-Government Customer Focus Group

Thursday, April 7th
6:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
City Hall 10th Floor

Pizza and Salad Provided for Dinner
RSVP no later than March 28th

VIRGINIA FIRST CITIES LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES 2005
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OVERVIEW

NOTE: Norfolk is a member of Virginia First Cities is a coalition of 15 of the most fiscally stressed older cities in Virginia.

This Session, the legislation the General Assembly did not adopt may be as important as what they did pass. The tax increases passed last year, to fund core services, were not rolled back and the most harmful bills to localities were killed or significantly amended.

In budget matters, the General Assembly chose to spend the \$1.3 billion surplus on obligations and items that were not addressed during the 2004 Session; transportation, water quality, state employee and teacher raises and higher education. They continued 2004 policies restoring the Rainy Day Fund, increases for Medicaid and continuing tax relief by accelerating elimination of the sales tax on food and ending the accelerated sales tax requirement for most retail businesses. The stated policy of the Governor, Senate and House was to spend most of the surplus on one time or capital projects rather than new or ongoing programs.

The House and Senate continued to act on very different philosophies. Social legislation and fixing perceived excesses of local government was the hallmark of many House bills. About half of all introduced bills were killed, often in the opposite chamber. Unfortunately, many of Virginia First Cities' (VFC) legislative priorities were among those items that did not pass. But VFC was not alone; it was not a particularly good year for urban, suburban or rural initiatives.

Economic Development/Redevelopment

Passed:

- A VFC constitutional amendment, SJ275 and HJ633, (sponsored by Sen. Edwards of Roanoke and Delegate Ingram of Hopewell), passed with strong support in both Chambers. It would provide local authority to abate real property taxes for new construction in redevelopment areas. To make this change to the state constitution the same resolution must pass next year and be approved by voters in the November 2006 election.
- The Enterprise Zone program was reauthorized with significant modifications. The legislation proposed by the Administration (sponsored by Sen. Watkins, Richmond and Del. Dudley, Rocky Mount) incorporates a number of VFC recommendations, including targeting the program to distressed communities and making the program more useful for redevelopment. Among the changes: Redevelopment incentives will be structured as grants rather than tax credits, modifications to the jobs grant program, elimination of the new general tax credits and new large project closing incentives and eventually reducing the number of zones from 60 to 30.
- While the Governor's *Virginia Works* package was rejected, a few elements that will benefit cities were approved. Start-up funds were provided for a community development bank, to help stimulate investment in distressed communities, and to increase the level of federal New Market tax credits available for use in Virginia.

Defeated:

- The House recommended studying SB1269. This bill expands the "spot blight" process to include commercial and industrial buildings. Current law only allows removal of blighted residential properties. The bill passed the Senate handily but got caught in a House drive to reduce eminent domain authority. By a narrow committee vote (8 to 7) the bill was as sent to the Housing Study Commission which is studying eminent domain authority.

- The General Assembly did not approve the Governor's proposed funding for Brownfield redevelopment. VFC supported this item, which was also a recommendation of the Urban Policy Task Force.

Education

Most of the increased funding in education, \$41 million, went to teacher salary increases with a modest increase in the Literary Fund for school construction. The General Assembly restored \$2.4 million of \$4.4 million VFC had requested to the at-risk add-on program. They declined to fully restore the federal funds deduction (\$45 million), deferring action on K-12 education programs until next year

The General Assembly also rejected study resolutions, sponsored by Sen. Locke and Del. Dillard at the request of VFC, to identify the level of funding and programs needed to successfully educate at-risk students. These choices can be viewed in this context, the General Assembly took significant action increasing education funding last year, and expects to spend an additional \$1.2 billion to fund education re-benchmarking costs next year.

Transportation

The General Assembly agreed on \$848 million in mostly one-time funding for transportation (adding \$ 348 million in new dollars). Several items are notable for cities:

1. Establishment of a dedicated rail fund for freight and passenger rail improvements.
2. Increasing the funds for the revenue sharing program to \$50 million and expanding to include cities and towns. This provides dollar for dollar matching funds for local projects up to \$1 million.
3. Establishing a \$25 million local partnership program, providing funds for localities that take over construction responsibility on projects in the six-year plan that are ready to go to bid.
4. \$141 million in increased funding to the Transportation Trust Fund for projects in the Six Year Plan (highway and transit). Distribution to be determined by the CTB.
5. Added \$5 million in state funds to help local transit systems purchase new buses and vans. This one-time funding will require only a 20 percent local share rather than the usual 60 percent share to match federal funds.

Cultural Facilities

The General Assembly provided \$30.6 million in one-time funds for museums and cultural facilities instead of an \$85.6 million cultural arts facilities bond package. Many of the recipients of these funds are located in VFC cities.

Water Quality

While not a VFC initiative, water and sewer standards and costs are a major concern for all cities. This Session \$107 million in new funds were committed to the Water Quality Improvement Fund. The passed HB2777 and SB1235, which dedicate WQIF funds to help meet new nutrient standards. This begins to provide some assistance for sewer systems that must upgrade to meet the standards.

HB2862 and SB1279 may be among the most significant pieces of legislation passed this Session. They provide for a single statewide water permit that will allow trading of nutrient credits among treatment plants in the same watershed. Prior to the 2006 Session the General Assembly will study ways to provide ongoing funding for nutrient reduction.

NORFOLK PUBLIC SCHOOLS' PARENT UNIVERSITY

Barbara Ciara, the award-winning managing editor and evening anchor of WTKR News Channel 3, will provide a lively mixture of laughter, encouragement, and inspiration to parents and their children at Norfolk Public Schools' Spring 2005 Parent University. Ms. Ciara, a Hampton University graduate and ground-breaker in the field of journalism who is also a mother and grandmother, promises to leave the crowd ready to make the commitment to help children in Norfolk Public Schools achieve at the highest levels.

Lisa Suhay will occupy "The Author's Chair" and serve as author-in-residence for the day. Suhay is the author of "There Goes A Mermaid!" This book will be available for purchase during two breakout sessions. All proceeds from book sales benefit both the Virginian-Pilot's Joy Fund, which gives holiday gifts to needy Norfolk children, and The Literacy Partnership, which works with Reading Is Fundamental (R.I.F.) to give books to children.

Parent University will be held Saturday, April 9, 2005 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the beautiful new Norview High School (6501 Chesapeake Boulevard Norfolk, VA 23513). A continental breakfast will be served. Door prizes donated by local businesses will be awarded to attendees.

Parents and family members of Norfolk Public Schools students in prekindergarten through 12th grade are invited to attend. Following the opening address by Barbara Ciara, a wide range of workshop sessions will be offered on topics such as No Child Left Behind; math, reading, science, and social studies tips for parents; deployment and military family issues; parenting skills; and healthy children. Special sessions will

provide parents with information on college funding. Two workshops will be held in Spanish. Free bus transportation and childcare for children age 3 and older are available to pre-registrants.

Registration forms can be obtained at all public schools and all public libraries in the city of Norfolk. Interested parents are encouraged to pre-register. Those pre-registering will receive a free tote bag. Parents also may register onsite on the day of the workshop.

NORFOLK REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS ADOPTED DESIGNERS GUILD

At a time when there is renewed interest in urban living, both Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NRHA) and the City of Norfolk are realizing tremendous success in restoring and redeveloping neighborhoods. More and more people are coming home to Norfolk, whether to the condominiums downtown, the waterfront communities in Ocean View or traditional Queen Anne homes in Park Place. NRHA, acting as a land developer on behalf of the City of Norfolk, is making a substantial investment of public dollars to attract private dollars to restore and build new housing in many neighborhoods. Thus, NRHA's development mission is to set the standard in architectural design and construction integrity for private-sector emulation.

Norfolk has a rich architectural heritage that has created a collection of neighborhoods remarkable for their diversity and unique character. The architectural style of the houses varies from neighborhood to neighborhood, especially in the traditional neighborhoods built between 1850 and 1950. But in recent years, the distinctly different quality of traditional architectural styles has been affected by the mass production of houses in Hampton Roads that seem redundant in character.

New construction must both harmonize and reinforce the better character of the neighborhood. Standardized suburban house design and lot layouts cannot achieve this. NRHA and the City are committed to forming and nurturing a cadre of builders and partners, such as architects and craftpersons, who will design and build a wide range of houses while maintaining the character of traditional neighborhood design (TND). These concepts and standards are illustrated in "A Pattern Book for Norfolk Neighborhoods."

NRHA provides about 100 buildable lots annually for single-family residential constructions. Generally the lots are singles and multiples of up to 20 or 30. Two large NRHA developments, East Beach and Broad Creek, have been chosen for the Tidewater Builders Association (TBA) Homearama 2004 and 2005.

NRHA lots are generally suitable for designs referenced by the NRHA House Plans Library. In addition, NRHA publishes preferred architectural patterns for certain neighborhoods that guide builders and homeowners on appropriate architecture for these properties. These preferred patterns identify and encourage neighborhood and area vernacular styles. An architect or qualified designer may readily interpret these patterns to meet the homeowner's and/or builders program. In the case of the custom homes,

designer participation is critical. Thus, a key to successful home design is a good working relationship between a builder and designer. Over time, these relationships grow even more valuable for each party.

In 2005, NRHA expects to start about 120 residential units as follows:

- Park Place at Broadway-16 units
- Huntersville-30 units
- Broad Creek-32 units
- East Ocean View-16 units
- Infill properties in various neighborhoods-20 units

Guild Goals

Based on a strong commitment to and presence in the housing market, an NRHA Builders and Designers Guild) (“the Guild”) is begin established. The Guild will comprise builders, architects and qualified designers who share a common belief that quality design and craftsmanship are integral components of creating great neighborhoods. The Guild, as initially envisioned, will apply to single-family (attached and detached) construction where NRHA is the land developer. The Guild may ultimately be expanded to include multi-family and other development scenarios. The Guild has the following goals:

- Establish and maintain quality builder/homebuyer relationships, resulting in positive customer satisfaction for homebuyers in NRHA developments;
- Encourage a high level of construction quality and recognize excellent builder performance;
- Facilitate good communication between NRHA, the City and the design-build team; and
- Enhance revitalization of Norfolk’s architectural and building legacy through continuous improvement in housing design and craftsmanship.
- Ensure a cadre of high-quality builders and designers to serve NRHA’s ongoing development needs.

SAFETY CITY

Each year thousands of children across America are injured in traffic-related crashes. Many of these crashes are due to the children’s lack of knowledge and experience in the traffic environment. In order to reduce the number of fatalities and

injuries in Norfolk, the Safety City program for school children, primarily those in grades K-2, was created.

Norfolk citizens from both the private and public sector opened the original Safety City was in 1970 at Military Circle Mall. As Military Circle grew, the space for Safety City was no longer available, and this valuable service to young children and their families closed. However, an equally concerned group came together in 2003 to reestablish Safety City. Now housed on the grounds of the Virginia Zoo, Safety City will provide the ultimate hands-on child traffic safety learning experience.

The current chairman of Safety City is a member of the staff of the Division of Neighborhood Services. Other partners include the Norfolk Police Department, Norfolk Public Schools, Norfolk Sheriff's Department, the Virginia Zoo, Norfolk Department of Public Works, AAA of Tidewater, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, private citizens, and Norfolk's business community. To date, well over \$50,000 in cash and in-kind donations have been contributed to establish the new Safety City.

The opening of Safety City was severely delayed as a result of Hurricane Isabel. However, it is planned that classes will begin in April, 2005. On April 29, 2005, at 11:00 a.m., Safety City will hold a much-anticipated Grand Opening ceremony.



NORFOLK SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL PILOT HOME PROJECT

Norfolk will participate in a national pilot to build affordable, classically-styled home. The program, a collaboration between Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) and the Institute of Classical Architecture & Classical America (ICA&CA) is partially funded by a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts, is designed to assist HFHI affiliates build houses that fit seamlessly into their neighborhoods and reinforce the character of the surrounding community.

Model homes will be designed and constructed in three cities known for their distinguished historic districts: Norfolk, Savannah, Georgia and Rochester, New York. Ray Gindroz will oversee the pilot phase of the project. South Hampton Roads Habitat for Humanity, which has built 113 homes for needy families, will partner with Mason Andrews to construct Norfolk's model home. NRHA is currently working with Habitat to identify a site for the house. ICA&CA, upon completion of the homes in each community, will develop and distribute a publication featuring an overview of design principles, architectural styles, as well as community planning and landscaping concepts.

"This project sets the foundation for classical architects to use thoughtful design to enhance the living space of families who could not otherwise afford it while, at the same time, preserve and strengthen the fabric of historical neighborhoods," said Paul Gunther,

president and project director, ICA&CA. "It will provide cost-effective ways for Habitat affiliates throughout North America to meet increasingly stringent landmark and zoning requirements while accelerating project approvals."

HFHI and ICA&CA received \$50,000 from NEA to help underwrite the cost of the project, which will begin January 2005 and expected to end in June of 2006. Partnering on the construction of the houses are:

- **Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity**, the largest builder of infill housing in Savannah, having built 83 houses, will collaborate with architects **Merill and Pastor**. The firm has won three national and 11 Florida AIA design awards. The Savannah firm of Barnard and King Architects will serve as associate architect.
- **Flower City Habitat for Humanity**, Rochester, the second-largest HFHI affiliate in the northeast having built or renovated more than 120 houses, will collaborate with **Ferguson & Shamamian Architects LLP** of New York City. This firm has established a design idiom that combines a classical architectural vocabulary with creative design solutions to modern residences. The associate architect will be Gardner Plus Architects of Rochester.
- **South Hampton Roads Habitat for Humanity**, Norfolk, which has built 113 homes for needy families, will partner with **Mason Andrews**, a Norfolk native and experienced architect and developer.

Upon completion of the homes, ICA&CA will develop and distribute a publication featuring an overview of design principles, architectural styles as well as community planning and landscaping concepts. The objective is to help Habitat for Humanity affiliates build houses that fit seamlessly into their context and reinforce the character of the surrounding communities. Raymond Gindroz, co-founder and principal of Urban Design Associates, Pittsburgh, Pa., will oversee this aspect of the project.

"This project takes Habitat for Humanity to a whole new level in home building," said Tom Jones, vice president and managing director, HFHI Washington Office.

"Working with ICA&CA will enable us to access neighborhoods that have traditionally resisted the construction of Habitat houses and demonstrate that our homes can not only fit in, but improve these communities."

Conceived as a long-term initiative, the ICA&CA will work with HFHI to identify additional architects and Habitat affiliates to replicate the program, allowing them to choose residential styles and motifs that best suit their neighborhood. The ICA&CA will also collaborate with the Habitat for Humanity University located in Americus, Ga. to create an e-course or instructional design module using the three model homes as case studies.

To learn more about the Habitat for Humanity-ICA&CA Classical Home Project or to arrange an interview with Paul Gunther or Tom Jones, please contact Kathleen Moore at kmoore@hfhi.org or 202-628-9171 ext. 4918.

PUBLIC AMENITIES GRANTS

City Council approved Public Amenities fund grants of \$100,000 to the Norfolk Convention and Visitors Bureau, \$100,000 to the Norfolk Convention and Visitors Bureau Research Foundation, \$60,000 to Festevents, \$50,000 to the Norfolk Botanical Garden, \$50,000 for the Virginia Arts Festival, \$60,000 to Nauticus, \$40,000 to the Southeaster Virginia Arts Association, \$35,000 to the Virginia Symphony, \$25,000 to the Department of Civic Facilities for the D'Art Center, \$20,000 to the Pepper Bird Foundation, \$15,000 to the Chrysler Musuem of Art and the Virginia Zoological Society, \$15,000 for the Virginia Stage Company, \$5,000 for Young Audiences of Virginia, and a grant of \$5,000 for the Virginia Challenge.

GRAFFITI-PENALTY MEASURE APPROVED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The measure, proposed by Del. Ryan T. McDougale, R-Hanover, would set a mandatory minimum fine of \$500 for graffiti that is more than 20 feet off the ground, or is on a railroad or highway overpass or is gang-related.

In Norfolk, graffiti is already a class 1 misdemeanor (max penalty 2500 fine and/or 12 months jail). Our standard disposition here is 30 days jail to serve and 2500 fine with part suspended, plus a payment of 1000 to our graffiti abatement fund plus 200 hours of community service plus removal of the graffiti.

TERRORISM DRILL HELPS CITY PREPARE

The following Letter to the Editor was sent to The Virginian Pilot regarding Norfolk's participation in a nationwide drill last summer.

In August, the City of Norfolk participated in a nationwide drill that allowed us to test and perfect our systems for dealing with a terrorist attack involving a cruise ship.

Planning for this drill began several months prior to the August drill date. We recognized that the drill was designed in such as way as to overwhelm the responding agencies to prompt creativity, communication and partnerships.

For the reasons outlined below, this was a successful drill for Norfolk because many of our systems and plans worked well.

- 1) Norfolk Fire-Rescue had recently obtained a high capacity decontamination system with grant money that was used for the first time in a full scale drill. As a result of this drill, we have developed operational procedures associated with patient decontamination.

- 2) While we still face significant challenges in communicating with federal agencies, we demonstrated the ability to communicate well across departments within the City of Norfolk. In addition, communications among the Hampton Roads Cities is better now than ever, and we do have communications capabilities between the area Fire Departments.
- 3) The exercise brought together the State of Virginia regional hazmat teams, the maritime incident response team, the metropolitan medical response system-strike team, several City, State and Federal Agencies that had the opportunity to compare notes and share ideas. We have developed relationships that lead to a better understanding of our collective capabilities.
- 4) The exercise demonstrated the importance of using the National Incident Management System when operating at an incident that involves the cooperation needed to mitigate an incident such as this.

As with any drill, one essential goal is to identify weakness before cities are forced to face a true emergency or disaster. Norfolk has routinely participated in local, regional and national exercises and many of the plans we use today – to prepare for a wide range of natural or manmade disasters or terrorism – were developed during such drills or as a result of in depth evaluations following the drills.

Ron Keys

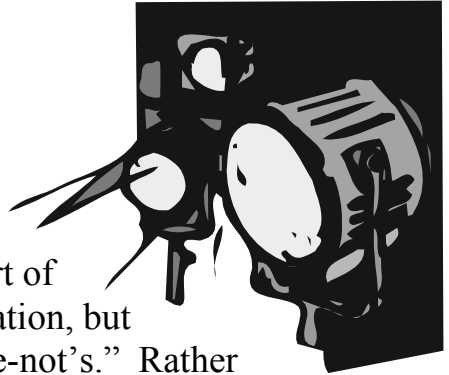
Director, Norfolk Department of Emergency Management

FEEDING CHILDREN OVER THE SUMMER

Summer Meals for Kids provides nutritional help in economically disadvantaged areas to children age 18 or younger and students over 18 who are mentally or physically disabled. It is an equal opportunity program serving all children regardless of race, color, age, national origin, sex or disability. To serve youth this summer, the program needs more sponsors and more feeding sites. Although 11 organizations sponsored the program in Norfolk in 2004, they were only able to reach 3,114 children on average each day. According to statistics compiled by FNS, this is just 14 percent of the number of children in Norfolk who receive meals under the school breakfast and lunch programs.

Organizations interested in getting involved please call **Summer Meals for Kids** at (800) 448-USDA or www.summerfood.usda.gov, and click on *Contacts* where you'll find the link to *Virginia*. If you're not ready or able to take on the responsibility of becoming a sponsor, you can contact the toll-free number and they may be able to connect you with a local sponsor that you can work with as a feeding site. The deadline for submitting application is May 13.

SPOTLIGHT: THE NEW AGE OF DIGITAL INFORMATION



The last decade has seen tremendous changes in the way information is gathered and disseminated, and libraries must change to reflect this. Computing is now essential as part of any library's offerings, not only for its data bases and information, but also to help bridge the divide between "digital haves and have-not's." Rather than looking primarily at what books to stock, libraries now must look at digital offerings first and supplement with books

The Norfolk Public Library now provides many electronic informational services that the public can access from their homes or in our library buildings. Probably the singularly most exciting is our magazine and newspaper database that provides over 2500 magazine titles, some over 10 years deep. That is an amazing amount of information that in the past could only have been obtained by going to a library like the vast New York Pubic Library, or its big city partners like Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia and alike.

Today in Norfolk, we have on average about eight microcomputers in every branch library to allow the public to access our new electronic resources and the vastness of the internet. Within the next 24 months, we are going to do our best to fundraise and apply for grants to try to increase the number of keyboards in each building to as close as 30 as possible. That would mean adding about 240 microcomputers to our 12 library locations. This will allow for thousands of more community residents to daily access the information they need to accomplish their homework or research. To accomplish this will mean to make our Norfolk Public Library a much more useful and exciting information dealer for all community residents. The new Pretlow Library in Ocean View, once constructed, will offer many more computers and computing capability. Areas of the library include a youth area, a teen area, meeting rooms, and an incredible array of services. While the new building is being built, the current collection will be housed at 120 Balview Avenue beginning April 1.

CITY UPDATES

DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Development has negotiated a Land Disposition and Development contract with Trader Publishing Company for the development of property owned by Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority situated at the intersection of Granby and Plume streets and City hall Avenue. The property is owned by NRHA and known as the Federal Square Lot. The project will create the headquarters for Trader Publishing Company's growing electronic media business accommodating up to 1,600 employees and consisting of a 504,000 square foot office tower and garage with retail components on the street level. The total investment value for construction of this project is \$51 million.

The development of this property by private investors for such purposes enables the City to realize particular objectives pertaining to the expansion of employment opportunities contributing to an increasingly vibrant, 24 hour, 7 day lifestyle and environment in downtown.

CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

Norfolk Convention and Visitors Bureau Wins Award for Capitalizing on a Trend Towards Girlfriend Getaways. In a destination sometimes better known for its military base than its spas, Norfolk, VA is renewing its reputation, positioning itself as the *New Norfolk*, a highly desirable Southern city reborn.

Knowing that girlfriend getaways are one of the travel industry's hottest trends -- *Women Traveling Together* reports that 80 percent of their participants agree that girlfriend getaways are ideal and 20 percent say their husbands or boyfriends prefer to stay home when their partners bonded with gal pals -- the Norfolk Convention and Visitors Bureau (NCVB) began appealing to women. From best friends to mothers, sisters and daughters, Norfolk made it easy for those women who have come to realize that the only way to reconnect and relax is to remove themselves from the pressures of daily life including children, husbands and bosses.

As a result, feature stories on the topic of girlfriend getaways to Norfolk have been appearing in key regional newspapers, including the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*. The marketing efforts behind the stories earned NCVB noteworthy recognition this year at the 15th Annual Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International's (HSMIAI) Adrian Awards, held at the New York Marriott Marquis on Jan. 24, 2005. Norfolk received a gold award in the "Feature Placement Print/Consumer Newspaper" category for their

"Girlfriend Getaways" public relations campaign. The Bureau also took home a bronze award for its "New Norfolk" marketing program.

"What better place than Norfolk to enjoy a trip with friends. This city offers a wide variety of entertainment choices for women of all ages - trendy dining, upscale shopping, antiques, cultural arts, festivals and more," states Christine Wilson, director of marketing and communications for the Bureau.

The HSMAI awards honor and showcase the best in hospitality and travel advertising, marketing materials, public relations, and website design and development. HSMAI is a global organization of sales and marketing professionals representing all segments of the hospitality industry. Founded in 1927, HSMAI is an individual membership organization comprised of nearly 7,000 members from 35 countries and 60 chapters worldwide.

COURTS

City Receives Grant to Reduce Juvenile Habitual Offenders. Norfolk has received a \$64,700 grant from the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant, formerly Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant, authorizing the expenditure of \$58,230 and appropriating \$6,470 as a local cash match.

This is the sixth year that Norfolk has participated in this block grant. The funding is targeted at diminishing the activities of serious juvenile habitual offenders in the community. The funding cycle is January 1, 2005-December 31, 2005. The funding has been allocated through the City's Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition that consists of representatives of youth serving agencies and private citizens. Three programs are recommended for continuation funding. These consist of the following:

- \$21,478 to the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to continue a program that provides community surveillance of youth on a probation or parole status. This program is subcontracted to a private contractor.
- \$11,627 to the Gang Unit of the Norfolk Police Department to assist in suppressing juvenile gang activity in selected neighborhoods.
- \$3,235 to be expended on administrative services designed to support the reduction of serious juvenile crime.
- \$13,009 to the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, a local community agency, to provide intensive supervision through therapeutic recreational evening programming for court probation and parole supervised youth.
- \$15,351 to the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, to establish a pre-trial program that targets and diverts juvenile offenders to complete pre-trial program services prior to disposition. This program is subcontracted to a private contractor.

FIRE-RESCUE

Norfolk Fire-Rescue Steps Up Fire Prevention Campaign. There have been a number of tragic fires in Hampton Roads this year, both in Norfolk as well as in surrounding communities. It is unfortunate that the common denominator in each of Norfolk's tragic fires was the lack of a functioning smoke detector.

These deaths are extremely frustrating to Norfolk's Department of Fire-Rescue, who currently provide residents with an extensive fire safety and fire prevention program. Some examples of these efforts include monthly fire safety presentations for civic leagues, fire station tours and educational programs for school-aged children, static displays, public demonstrations, and a free smoke detector installation program. You may recall that in 2003 Fire-Rescue received the "Get Alarmed Virginia" grant, which funded 3,000 smoke detectors that were installed by firefighters in Norfolk homes.

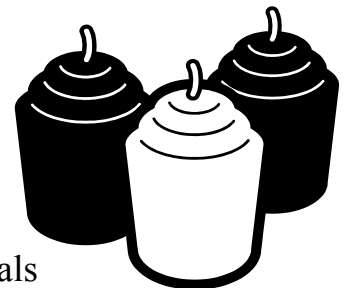
During the past week staff has worked closely with the media to get the word out about the importance of having a working smoke detector in hopes of preventing similar tragedies in the future. On Wednesday, Chief Senter was interviewed by WVEC Channel 13 and appeared live on the noon broadcast at WAVY Channel 10 to stress the need for smoke detectors and fire safety. He will also be interviewed on Channel 10 this Saturday morning. Other recent efforts include letters to civic leagues urging everyone to check their smoke detectors, and fire safety flyers for distribution to citizens. On Saturday morning, fire companies will be going door-to-door in neighborhoods affected by the most recent fires including Fairmount Park, Oakdale Farms/Monticello Village, and central Ocean View offering free smoke detectors.

Communications, Human Services and Fire are collaborating on ways to educate residents about the proper use of candles. Please note, however, that staff is aware that residents in many cases use candles as a substitute for lighting. In these cases, the real issue is that families are unable to pay their light bill due to financial constraints. As a result, we are going to work to identify ways in which the City can provide financial assistance and other help through existing programs

Fire Officials Urge Caution in Use of Candles Following Two More Deaths. A

Norfolk Fire and Rescue investigation into the deaths of two young boys this week has determined that the fire was caused by a candle burning in the children's bedroom that ignited nearby combustibles.

The occupants of the apartment did not have electricity and it appears had been using candles for heat and lighting at the time of the fire. The fire on Ashlawn Drive resulted in the 5th and 6th fire related deaths in Norfolk during the past six months. Four of those deaths occurred during fires that were caused by candles; the other two deaths occurred during fires that were caused by smoking materials. Fire officials



also emphasized the importance of having working smoke detectors in the home. Recommendations for candle safety include:

- Don't use candles during power blackouts. Use flashlights.
- Don't leave the room or sleep with candles burning.
- Keep candles a safe distance from curtains, paper, and flammable liquids. Be aware of pets and children who may knock them over.
- Discard candles when they are about two inches from the bottom of a candle holder.

For information on assistance in obtaining smoke detectors, city residents can call Norfolk Fire-Rescue at 664-6616.

City Council Adopts Master Firefighter Designation. This revision will provide supplements for employees in specified job classes who obtain designation as a Master Firefighter.

The Master Firefighter program, which was developed by the Departments of Fire Rescue and Human Resources, allows employees to enhance knowledge, skills, and abilities, as well as behaviors and attitudes. This program will increase the quality of service delivery to the citizens of Norfolk; serve as a recruitment, retention, and succession-planning tool for Fire-Rescue; and offer employees a defined career path to prepare for upward movement to Fire officer ranks.

Program funding will be recommended in the FY-06 Operating Budget. Under the provisions of the program, employees will receive an additional pay step for completion of each of four training modules and demonstration of proficiency. They will be awarded two additional pay steps for completion of the fifth module and certification as a Master Firefighter.

HUMAN SERVICES

“Books 4 Kids” Drive to Benefit Children in Norfolk. The Literacy Partnership, Inc. and the Norfolk Department of Human Services have teamed up to sponsor a month-long “Books 4 Kids Drive,” beginning Wednesday, March 2, 2005 in celebration of “Read Across America Day.” The public is encouraged to contribute new or gently used, easy-to-read children’s books which will be distributed to 500 children in Norfolk, ages 12 and under, who receive assistance through the following Department of Human Services programs:

- Homeless Families
- Family Preservation
- Foster Care



Books may be dropped off at specially marked receptacles on the first floor at Norfolk City Hall and at Kirn Memorial Library in downtown Norfolk. To assist you, a list of recommended books will be posted at the donation sites, on the City of Norfolk website under Book 4 Kids, or can be obtained by calling 664-2507. The goal is to collect more than 500 books, one for each child. Every child deserves a book of his or her own. Developing a love of books and reading is an important first step for a child to develop an overall love of learning. For more information, contact William Smith, "Books 4 Kids" coordinator at 757-664-2507 or wsmith@hrccva.com.

NOW PLAYING ON TV 48, THE NORFOLK NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

The Department of Human Services presents *Human Services Forum*, a half-hour informational program hosted by Jan Callaghan that explores the social issues that affect our community.

On our March program, Virginia Social Services Commissioner Maurice Jones shares his thoughts on the importance of supporting a regional Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition and enlisting the help of young volunteers through the Virginia Community Corps.

Also, learn about the challenging role of Eligibility Workers and how they connect citizens to the help they need. And find out how you can screen yourself *online* to see if you qualify for up to 12 federal, state, and local public assistance programs.

In April, *Human Services Forum* focuses on Juveniles at Risk: Resources for Anxious Parents. Take a tour of the Norfolk Juvenile Detention Center and meet a man whose mission is to steer troubled youth away from crime before it's too late. Hear the story behind the Norfolk Sheriff's Department's "Straight Talk" program for troubled teens and find out what the Norfolk YMCA is offering to help parents cope with a difficult child of any age.

Human Services Forum can be viewed daily on TV 48 and online at www.norfolk.gov/tv48

Human Services Forum. Tune in, get the facts and get involved!

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR THE EITC? GET YOUR TAXES DONE FOR FREE!

The Earned Income tax Credit remains the single largest federal aid program for working families. The average EITC refund for Norfolk residents is \$1800. To qualify, you must have worked and earned income in 2004. Your adjusted gross income must be less than:

\$11,490 (\$12,490, if	If you do not have a
------------------------	-----------------------------

married, filing jointly	qualifying child
\$30,338 (\$31,338, if married, filing jointly)	If you have one qualifying child
\$34,458 (\$35,458, if married, filing jointly)	If you have two or more qualifying children

For more information about the EITC visit www.irs.gov/eitc or call 1-800-829-1040.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites (VITA) are now open throughout Hampton Roads for low-income families who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit. In Norfolk, free income tax assistance is available at:

Sherwood Forest Recreation Center

4537 Little John Drive
Norfolk, VA 23513
January 22 – April 9
Saturdays 12pm - 4pm
270-6726 by appointment

Calvert Square Family Investment Center

975 Bagnall Road
Norfolk, VA 23504
January 18 - April 15
Monday – Friday 12pm – 2:30pm & 6pm – 7pm
314-4273 appointments and walk-ins

Call 664-6035 for information about additional VITA locations in Hampton Roads.

Foster/Adoptive Parent Training Classes BEGIN APRIL 14, 2005

The Norfolk Department of Human Services is seeking Foster and Adoptive families to provide children in crisis with a warm, stable, and loving home. Our curriculum for pre-service foster parent training incorporates both foster and adoptive instruction, so that all parents receive dual certification. The state-mandated P.R.I.D.E. (Parent Resources for Information, Development, & Education) training program is a model of practices, geared toward five competencies:

- Protecting and nurturing children
- Meeting children's developmental needs and addressing development delays

- Supporting relationships between children and their families
- Helping children to develop safe and nurturing relationships intended to last a lifetime
- Working as a member of a professional team

If you have ever considered becoming a foster parent or adopting a child, please **call Nancy Brock, P.R.I.D.E. Coordinator, at 757-664-6079 by April 7.** Right now, children are waiting for a place they can call home. Additional information about foster and adoptive parenting can be viewed online at:

www.norfolk.gov/humanservices/fostercare.asp

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

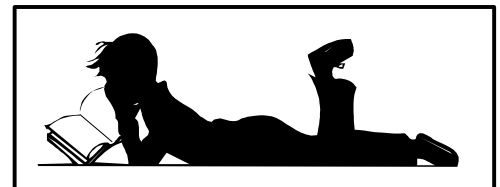
New IVR System for Permits, Inspections and Code Enforcement. Selectron Technologies, Inc. (STI) VoicePermits System and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System was made available for use by both the Building Construction Services (BCS) Division and the Public. This new system expands the functionality of the IVR beyond the reporting of results by inspectors; enabling contractors to schedule inspections, check on the status of inspections, receive a fax on inspection history, generate utility releases and request a fax of the Certificate of Occupancy. All this is done through the telephone. Inspectors can also leave voice messages, further enhancing the ability to explain inspection results to contractors.

(757) 664-6509

The implementation of this system will result in numerous efficiencies in the permitting process and enhance service delivery to the public. The hard work and collaborative efforts of BCS and IT staff, along with STI made the implementation of this new system possible. The list of codes is on the City's website www.norfolk.gov under Building Construction in City Planning, or can be accessed by hitting 100.

LIBRARIES

Onboard the Treasure Truck. Over the last few years, thousands of young children have experienced library fun on board the Treasure Truck. Melanie Reeves, the Treasure Truck librarian, takes the truck to area daycares, public preschools, recreation centers, shelters and other locations to promote literacy.



The Treasure Truck encourages young children and their parents to visit the library by giving each child a special coupon to redeem at any Norfolk Public Library branch for

a free book. The Treasure Truck works diligently to help the library “create a city of readers.” Last year, the Treasure Truck participated in two exciting projects:

First Book-- <http://www.firstbook.org>. Through First Book, the Treasure Truck received 2208 free books to distribute for Make a Difference Day. All of the books were donated Random House Children's Books.

First Book is a national nonprofit organization with a single mission: to give children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books. The primary goal of First Book is to work with existing literacy programs to distribute new books to children who, for economic reasons, have little or no access to books. In the last three years alone, First Book has provided more than 20 million new books to children in need in hundreds of communities nationwide.

Reading is Fundamental (RIF) <http://www.rif.org>. The Treasure Truck is once again partnering with the Literacy Partnership and Campostella Elementary. “We are all excited about continuing this service project which began with our first RIF distributions during the 2004-2004 school year,” says Melanie Reeves.

During the months of January, March, and May, each child in Campostella Elementary PreK and K classrooms selectED one free book as a gift. Reading is Fundamental is the nation’s oldest and largest non-profit children’s literacy organization. RIF supports literacy development by providing free books for children to choose and keep, as well as encouraging them to read through motivational activities.

Shop at Food Lion and Support the Treasure Truck. You can help the Norfolk Public Library Treasure Truck outreach program continue to provide free books to children of Norfolk. The Friends of the Norfolk Public Library has enrolled in the Food LionShop & Share community fundraising program.

You can help by simply registering for the program and shopping at Food Lion. Each time you shop and present your MVP card, a portion of your purchase will be donated to the Friends of the Norfolk Public Library to help fund special library programs. To help, link, link your MVP card by completing a form and returning it to the Library or by visiting Food Lion’s web site, www.foodlion.com. ** This program does not interfere with MVP discounts and no MVP products have to be purchased to participate. **Thank You for Your Support**

For more information, call Barbara Weedman, Library Planning and Fundraising Coordinator at 664-7384.

Get Free Tax Assistance from AARP at Norfolk Public Library. The American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) is offering free tax assistance to taxpayers with middle to low income. The organization will help file federal and Virginia tax forms.

Seniors 60 years and older will be given priority over others in line. Help will be offered at the following locations at the times listed below through April 14:

Mondays, Noon to 4 p.m. - Pretlow Branch Library, 120 Balview Avenue (this temporary location opens April 1) 441-1750

Wednesday, Noon to 4 p.m. - Little Creek Branch Library, 7853 Tarpon Pl., 441-1751

Thursday, Noon to 4 p.m. - Janaf Branch Library, 124 Janaf Shopping Ctr., 441-5660

Please bring your W-2 form, a copy of our last year's return, and your social security card. For more information, call 664-7323

NEIGHBORHOOD AND LEISURE SERVICES

Kudos. Congratulations are extended to *Brittany Bailey, Facilities Manager for the Huntersville Neighborhood Service Center*, who was highlighted in a recent Virginian Pilot newspaper article about the Educational Opportunity Center in Norfolk. Brittany had an associate's degree but wasn't sure how to fit in a Bachelor's Degree with a full-time job and three children. Through the persistence and encouragement of EOC Counselor, Tyrone Davis, he found her a one-night-a-week program run in Chesapeake by Bluefield College. She received her Bachelor's Degree in 2000 and is currently working towards a Master's in Urban Education and Counseling at Norfolk State University. Brittany, a breast cancer survivor, accomplished her educational goals in spite of being sick from chemo treatments. Bailey said, "I felt like giving in would be like giving up."

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Neighborhood Capacity Building. Neighborhood Services staff continues to assist neighborhoods both old and new to organize for action. Recently, the Resident Services Manager of the new Broad Creek Renaissance townhouse apartment area contacted Neighborhood Services for advice on starting a civic league. There are currently over 100 residents who have already moved into the area, and when construction is finished, there will be over 300 households. Neighborhood Services staff is providing organizational technical assistance, including enrollment in Neighborhood University classes, to the apartment managers.

Neighborhood Pride Tours 2005 schedule has been officially released. This seven year old program was originally developed to educate and build neighborhood pride. Previous tours focused on general Norfolk annexation history, while this year's tour season offers participants the opportunity to take part in theme tours (see below) that include a 30-minute social break sponsored by area organizations and businesses. At the end of each tour, participants will have the opportunity to offer feedback regarding their tour experience. This citizen feedback will be used in selecting which mobile tours are included in the Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference scheduled to take place September 22-24, 2005 in Norfolk. Please visit the Division of Neighborhood Services website: www.norfolk.gov/Neighborhoods/Services/PrideTours.asp For further details, call our new NU Info Line at 441-2400, Extension 232.



DATE	NORFOLK NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE TOUR
April 9	Cultural Extravaganza
May 14	Catching a Glimpse of the Future
June 11	Cornerstones: Historical Churches
July 9	Visiting a Patriotic Past
August 13	"Tree City" – A Natural Perspective
September 10	Port to Port
October 8	Famous & Mysterious Memorials
November 12	The Downtown Experience

Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference announced the theme of the 6th Annual Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference (VSNConf): "Neighborhoods: Celebrate the Power". Additional Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference details, including 2005 Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Award nomination information is now available on the Division of Neighborhood Services website: www.norfolk.gov/Neighborhoods/Services/VASNeighborhoodConference.asp

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Red Cross Babysitting Training Courses

Tarrallton Recreation Center has taken the lead on hosting the first of several American Red Cross Babysitting Training Courses. The six-hour courses are designed to give co-

ed's aged 11years and older the needed skills for babysitting. Participants receive a certification, a babysitting reference book and a first aid bag - complete with a flashlight and batteries. Fourteen teens have signed up for the two 3 hour sessions. The first class is expected to complete the course on March 20th. Six of the teens have decided to apply for a summer volunteer junior staff position at Tarrallton this year.

Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center.

On Sunday, March 13th, the aquatic staff that was hired to work at the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center took part in an orientation and training session, conducted by the current aquatic unit supervisors, at the new facility.

Current operating hours for the center, located at 7300 Newport Avenue

Monday	7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Tuesday	7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday	7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Clean-up Day Planning is Underway

The Annual NLS Clean-up Day in the neighborhoods is set for Saturday, April 9, 2005 from 9am-11am with a picnic following at Lakewood Park at 11:30. Volunteers work at Lakewood Park, Barraud, Monticello and Lafayette Winona.

Fairlawn Recreation Center Highlights

- Fairlawn Recreation Center hosted a trip to an ODU Basketball Game where 17 youth enjoyed an evening of fun at the Old Dominion Senior Night as special guests of Number 24 Kiah Thoman, a senior guard on the ODU team. The game was held at the Ted Constant Center.
- Fairlawn reminded participants to stay safe, even at home. Through the “Safety Day Program” participants verified that they had checked the smoke detectors in their homes and in turn received praise and a gift from the Fairlawn Advisory Committee.
- Thirty-four children ages 5-8 years old, discussed bullying at the Fairlawn Recreation Center. Using the Comic “Kid’s Pages” from the Sunday newspaper, children and staff discussed what bullying is and what to do in response to someone bullying.

Huntersville Recreation Center

- The Huntersville Center re-opened on February 7, after major renovations including painting, replacing tiles on the floor and in the ceiling, lighting, baseboard trims, varnishing doors and installing new countertops and plumbing fixtures in the girls' and boys' bathrooms and locker rooms.
- The "Share Food Program" at Huntersville Center continues to be a success and is a big help to many community families. The program, offered to the public, allows people to pay \$17 for a bag of groceries that would normally cost \$30 to \$40. Participants must contribute up to two hours of volunteer service. Groceries are picked up from Huntersville Center on the fourth Saturday of each month at 9 a.m.

Lakewood Dance and Music Center

- Jessica DeCarlo has been hired to implement a semi-private music program for underprivileged children in the recreation centers. Twenty-five scholarships were donated to the program. Classes with sufficient registration to sustain the program include East Ocean View with four classes and the Vivian C. Mason Center and Ingleside Center will each have one class. Classes began the week of February 7.

The Titustown Senior Club

- Over 50 people participated in celebrating the second anniversary of the opening of Titustown Center with a "Senior Community Day" highlighting the Norfolk Senior Program. Several community partners were invited to participate and organizations such as Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia, Bayview Plaza Pharmacy, Traid and Genesis Home Health Care offered Blood Pressure Screening, Cholesterol and Diabetes Screening.

Oceanview Senior Center Activities

Regular Events:

Wednesdays

60+ Club Business Meeting 11:00a.m.

Featuring Card games, BINGO, Ballroom Dancing, Hot Meal

Thursdays

Line Dancing Class 11:00a.m.

Tuesdays

Square Dancing 6:30p.m.

Fridays

Square Dancing 10:30a.m.

Mon-Fri

Nutrition Program 10:00a.m

Staff Assistance is provided each month to permit groups such as civic groups, Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club and Mayors Task Force.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Teen Cultural Advisory Committee

The Teen Cultural Advisory Committee met in February to discuss strategies to assist the Norfolk Teen Cultural Committee (NTCC) with their goal to promote and celebrate cultural diversity among Norfolk teens and to serve as a guide for the NTCC with their responsibilities that include assisting with the planning and implementation of the 2005 Teen Culture Fest. The Advisory Committee currently consists of adult professionals who represent the field of recreation, local radio, and faith-based organizations. Also, plans are underway to recruit representatives from local businesses, corporations and Universities.

Norfolk Youth Planning Committee

The Norfolk Youth Planning Committee (NYPC) held their first meeting of 2005 on Tuesday, February 15, at the Division of Youth Development. The NYPC assists the Division of Youth Development and its mission to promote, affirm, and strengthen the community's capacity to support the positive development of Norfolk's youth. Committee members represent such organizations/agencies as Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeast Virginia, Norfolk Department of Public Health, Norfolk Community Services Board, Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and the Barry Robinson Center.

Prevention Works

The Virginia Youth Tobacco Survey demonstrated the following improvements between 2001/2002 and 2003/2004:

Among middle school students...

- Students who tried cigarettes decreased 45 percent.
- Males who used chewing tobacco, snuff or dip decreased 33 percent;
- Females who used chewing tobacco, snuff or dip decreased 47 percent.

Among high school students...

- Students who tried cigarettes decreased 28 percent;
 - female decreased 32 percent and males decreased 24 percent.
- Males who used chewing tobacco, snuff or dip decreased 47 percent.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Anyone interested in volunteering to work in any of the Neighborhood Service Centers, Neighborhood University, Virginia Statewide Conference or other programs in the Division of Neighborhood Services should call 441-2400 for additional information.

PACE (Police Assisted Community Enforcement)

PACE SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Summary of January 21 meeting

2nd Gold Sector Semi-Annual Report

- The Sector meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, with a speaker at each meeting. Attendance is usually 30 – 50 people, including citizens from other sectors.
- There are 23 civic leagues in the sector, with whom the police work year round.
- The Christmas party at the Masonic Lodge was a great success.
- The Shopping Center Detail over the holidays was very successful, with very few crimes at the shopping center and malls.
- Fairmount Park – The police are targeting specific areas. Neighborhood Preservation has been very active, with 2 buildings slated for demolition. The sewer project on Lafayette Blvd. is now finished, and the City is concentrating some efforts on beautification along the street.
- East Norview – Trespass letters are being widely used, and it's working well to reduce the environment conducive to illegal activity. The police have been able to develop a better rapport with the residents.
- Citizen's Academy – the last class had 53 graduates in it, with 30 already registered for the class which begins in March. Rose Marie passed around the list of topics covered. The Sector also works closely with the Academy Alumni Association, called CPAAAN
- Overall crime stats show a 14 percent decrease in the last 6 months.

Libraries asked if the Police Academy would be of interest to teens. The libraries have been working closely with teens, and she is getting reports that the youth have expressed that often they are afraid at school.

A discussion about bullying ensued. Would training for faculty and staff at the schools and libraries help? Maybe something through the SRO's? (police) said that there is a great deal of attention given to this problem, and the schools have been and continue to try to address it. It was also mentioned that Program Class Action through the Attorney General's office, focusing on bullying and the legal consequences, might be helpful. The issue will be explored further.

Updates and Announcements

- World Changers will be in Norfolk again this summer. Two new neighborhoods have been added: Berkley and Campostella. Marty distributed application forms.
- The Crime Prevention Awards Banquet will be held March 21, 6:30 p.m., at the Norfolk Airport Hilton. Marty distributed nomination forms and invitations.
- The Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference will be in Norfolk in September. Volunteers are needed for both planning committees and during the conference September 22-24. Marty passed out a volunteer application form.
- Officer Irby announced that the Crime Prevention Officers are visiting all civic leagues to, among other things, explain the call system and how they can use it.
- 2 new block watches have been started in the 2nd Gold Sector.
- Sgt. Steve Duke talked about a success story from Project Lifeline.
- Clarence Satchell reported that 5 properties in the Riverview area, including the theater, the muffler place, and the restaurants have now been brought into full compliance.
- Officer George reminded those who might have construction going on within their departments to remember that with construction there is a heightened problem with vandalism and theft. He advised that the organization file a NO TRESPASS letter with the Chief's office.

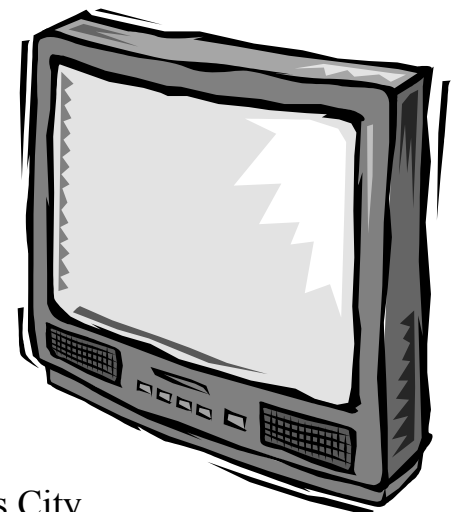
NORFOLK NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK – TV48

“Homebound Exercise” and “The Pentagon Channel” New Features on Norfolk’s Neighborhood Network. Norfolk Neighborhood Network TV 48 continues to enhance residents’ viewing experience. Recently two new program sources were added to our line-up, one for seniors and one for residents interested in military news.

Seniors can now find an exercise TV show they can participate in from home on Norfolk’s Neighborhood Network. “Homebound Exercise” is a new half hour exercise show designed for seniors to participate in. Launched last month, Homebound Exercise is already receiving a warm welcome.

Though the series was created and shared by Newport News City Channel, the exercises on the show apply to everyone who wants to stay active in their golden years. Homebound exercise airs daily at 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Norfolk’s Neighborhood Network has stepped up its public service to our military viewers by airing new shows from “The Pentagon Channel.” This new service makes



NNN Norfolk's exclusive source for televised military news and programming. Now you can see daily newscasts and features fresh from the Pentagon. Tune into TV-48 daily at Noon, 5 p.m., 7 p.m., and overnight, you'll see military news from across the national and right here in Norfolk.

Broadcast Services wins two Telly Awards. The winning entries were "A City Tribute to Negro League Baseball," a daylong look into the lives of several African American heroes in the NLB and how their contributions evolved during the Civil Rights Movement, and Norfolk Perspectives on Loaction: Festevents, a behind-the-scenes look into what goes inot a major festival event on the downtown waterfront and the partnerships that make it all come together.

PARKING

New Construction Project Brings Parking Changes. Several exciting building and renovation projects are occurring in Downtown as a testament to Norfolk's continued revitalization. Included in these projects is the \$51 million expansion of Trader Publishing Company's national headquarters. In addition to the 1,100 new jobs this expansion will bring to Downtown, Trader will construct a 21-story office tower located on the Federal Lot at the corner of Granby Street and City Hall Avenue. Preliminary site work on the project has begun and therefore it is necessary to close the 62-space Lot in early March in preparation for construction.



Simultaneously with the closure of the Federal Lot the previously metered, 16-space Board of Trade Lot, located on the corner of Atlantic Street and Plume Street, will become an all monthly lot.

Since Parking System has over 18,000 spaces available for use by its patrons, these changes should not disrupt normal parking patterns. However, to provide additional short-term parking opportunities the Division of Parking opened Lot 31, a temporary parking lot located near the corner of Granby Street and Plume Street. This property is the site of the old the BB&T drive-through that was purchased by the City last year for future development. The Lot has 69 spaces and will be operated from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. The Lot enters and exits from Plume Street.

All affected monthly tenants on both of these lots have been relocated. Short-term patrons should utilize alternative parking locations within the area. These include MacArthur Center South Garage, West Plume Street Garage, Boush Street Garage and the recently opened Lot 31.

The Division of Parking offers monthly parking for most of its locations. Simply contact the Customer Service Center at 222 East Main Street or call 664-6222.

For more information, please call 664-6222 us at www.norfolk.gov/parking.

POLICE

Grant Received. City received \$445,838 from the Department of Criminal Justice Services for the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program Grant. The grant will provide the Norfolk Police Department the necessary funds to purchase equipment and supplies for phase one of the formation of a Bomb Recognition and Disposal Unit. There is no local cash match required for this grant.

PROJECT UPDATES

Norfolk Botanical Garden Children's Garden Planned for the Young at Heart. Construction has begun on the new \$4.5 million Children's Garden. The Garden is a partnership between the City of Norfolk and the Norfolk Botanical Garden Society (NBGS), in which the City's share is \$900k. It is scheduled for completion in the first half of 2006.



The Garden, first of its type to be constructed in the region and one of the largest in the nation. It will be a state-of-the-art exhibit that provides exciting scenery meant for effectively teaching children about plants, gardening and the environment. According to Bob Meadows, the City Architect, "the primary beneficiaries of this garden will be pre-kindergarten through 8th grade school children and families with young children." However, this is not to say that the child within us cannot benefit from the aesthetically pleasing garden.

The Norfolk Botanical Garden rests on approximately 150 acres of land; the Children's Garden will use three acres of that land. Features of the garden consist of internationally themed spaces such as Passport Gardens, a plant safari, Discovery Peak, the Dirt Factory, an amphitheater and an Imagination circle. The garden will also be comprised of a 3,000 square foot building with multiple water features.

The design for the Garden was provided by San Francisco-based EDAW, Inc. It is a world-class design with unique features, characteristics and global themes unmatched by other children's gardens around the U.S. In fact, according to EDAW, "the guiding philosophy for the Garden is to introduce and interest kids in plants by way of global themes. We foresee kids exploring the connections between plants, international cultures and the environment, primarily using their natural curiosity and instinct to play."

The garden is a significant part of the long-range master plan for the Norfolk Botanical Garden and is designed to meet the demands for more educational programming desired by visitors to the Botanical Garden.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Help prepare your child for success in school. *Register them now for Norfolk's pre-kindergarten programs.* Registration for Norfolk Public Schools pre-kindergarten program will take place April 1-29. Parents and guardians of children who will be four years old by Sept. 30, 2005 are encouraged to go to the nearest public school to obtain information about this valuable educational program. Space is limited, so it is important to register early.

To qualify, children must meet the age requirement, live in Norfolk, and show need for the program. Pre-kindergarten is a program that gives children the extra help and readiness skills needed to be successful in kindergarten and first grade.

- Parents or guardians should bring the following to the school:
- The child's birth certificate (not a hospital certificate)
- Record of a physical examination and TB skin test
- Updated immunization record
- Child's social security card
- Proof of residence (utility receipt, lease agreement, etc.)

Additionally, Norfolk Public Schools offers, on a more limited basis, a program for youngsters who turn three years old by September 30, 2005. Please call 628-3921 to learn more about these early learning opportunities.

PUBLIC WORKS

No Wake Zone - City Council approved a resolution to authorize the Department of Public Works to petition the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the United States Coast Guard for permission to install No Wake/Speed Limit signs in the ancillary channels of Broad Creek SO AS TO prohibit speeding by motorized watercraft, to prevent erosion to the shoreline, and to comply with the Corps of Engineers' conditions for dredging of said ancillary channels."

Recycling Coordinator Participates in International Environmental Partnership.

Recycling Coordinator John Deuel recently returned from a three-day solid waste study tour in Thailand as part of a United States-Asia Environmental Partnership. The purpose of the tour was to strengthen capabilities and share best practices in community-based environmental management (CBEM). John was invited to join the tour by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences. Partners on the tour were representatives from the Philippine's Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) and Thailand's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE).

Over the three days, the group of approximately 12 delegates was shown examples of how waste is managed in Thailand. Some examples included stops at a Bangkok shopping center that has implemented a recycling program; a non-profit foundation that solicits, repairs and redistributes second-hand goods to underprivileged families; and a community and school “garbage bank” program that pays recycling participants for their recyclable waste. A presentation was also provided on a “Keep Thailand Clean” campaign called “Magic Eyes.”

Although the language and culture were different, John was able to share his experiences with the Hampton Roads integrated regional waste management system. He shared some of the ways we communicate and collaborate with other agencies and our citizens to promote proper waste handling here in Norfolk.

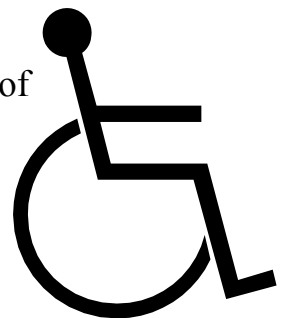
New Asphalt Plant Increases Efficiency. Since moving into its new facility at 2205 McKann Avenue in December 2001, Streets and Bridges has doubled the production capability of the old plant at the 17th Street location. The new plant is highly sophisticated production facility that integrates computer technology, allowing for closer monitoring of systems and control of the mix.

The plant is heated and insulated to permit winter operation. Not only is asphalt available year-round, it is available on weekends when local commercial plants are not open. Natural gas is the primary fuel source for the plant operation; however, as back-up, the entire system is also capable of running on No. 2 fuel oil. The new asphalt plant has made Streets and Bridges self-sufficient in the asphalt paving area. It is the only city-operated asphalt plant locally.

The City also sells asphalt to other cities such as Virginia Beach and Portsmouth and to the state’s Department of Transportation (VDOT). Streets and Bridges’ crews used 3,718 tons of asphalt from July 2003 to June 2004. Also, within the same timeframe, the plant sold 431 tons. Dedicated asphalt plant operators Joe Norris and Tori Barrett from Streets and Bridges do an excellent job of running the plant and providing a quality asphalt product for their customers.

The Evolution of ADA Ramps in Norfolk. Since 1994, the Division of Streets and Bridges has installed approximately 600 curb ramps throughout the City. The driving force behind the installation of these ramps is the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The Act was created to protect the civil rights of people with disabilities. Requirements for ADA ramps has been an evolving process since the 1990s.

First, the ramps were unaggregated surfaces with slopes that provide individuals in wheelchairs access to the street. In the early 1990s, ADA advocates requested that ADA ramps have textured surfaces that allow the visually impaired to be able to adequately detect an upcoming street and intersection. As a result, cities across the country began installing new ADA compliant ramps. Yet,



despite major efforts to improve walkways, sidewalks, and pathways with the textured ADA ramps, many individuals in communities realized that the traditional grooves, exposed aggregates and other designs were too similar to pavement textures, cracks, and joints in concrete.

In 1994, the Access Board, also known as the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), suspended the requirements for detectable warnings due to concerns about technical specifications, the availability of complying products, and maintenance issues such as snow and ice removal, usefulness, and safety. This suspension expired in July 2001 and soon after, the Access Board drafted guidelines that included revised specifications for detectable warnings that have a distinctive surface pattern of domes.

Today, many cities are moving to install these raised domes, also known as truncated domes. "These unique devices allow for individuals who may be visually impaired to adequately detect an area between a crosswalk and a street," says Annette Burberry, a Civil Engineer II in the Design Division. "The neat feature about the truncated domes is that individuals can detect the domes by cane or underfoot when crossing. In fact, research has suggested that these truncated domes stop individuals on at least 90 percent of the approaches to a street or intersection."

Since 2001, the City has installed several truncated domes and plans to continue with the installation of these domes in areas where there is a high population of disabled individuals.

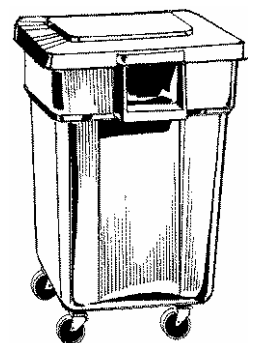
VDOT Congestion Relief Program—Virginia Beach Boulevard/Newtown Road Intersection Improvement Project. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has recently approved the inclusion of the Virginia Beach Boulevard/Newtown Road Intersection Improvement project in the State's Six Year Development Plan, FY05-06.

The Virginia Beach Boulevard/Newtown Road Intersection Improvement Project consists of constructing an additional left turn lane on eastbound Virginia Beach Boulevard to northbound Newtown Road.

The estimated cost of the project to construct this additional left turn lane for the Virginia Beach Boulevard/Newtown Road Intersection is \$305,000. Funding participation under the Congestion Relief Program is 100 percent state and federal funded. There is no City funding participation in this program.

Central Business District Refuse Container Replacement. In October 2004, Waste Management commenced "Operation CBD", a plan to replace all City-issued refuse containers in the CBD operation was an initiative in the City's efforts to evaluate the current refuse collection service provided in the downtown area.

With a container staging area located at Harbor Park, a group of 11 enthusiastic employees maneuvered around busy traffic and through narrow



alleys to replace 101 refuse containers. The group was divided into two separate teams with each having a container delivery & pickup crew and account audit personnel. Containers that were delivered have a distinct red and blue reflective strip located in front to identify businesses in the CBD area that receive City collection.

According to Jim Newkirk, Project Supervisor, “the hard work and professionalism displayed by our employees with this project will help maintain a clean downtown.”

“This collaborative effort between Cathy Coleman, Downtown Norfolk Council Executive Director, and the City will help to achieve our goal of beautifying downtown Norfolk,” said Marty Krupinski, Waste Management Superintendent.

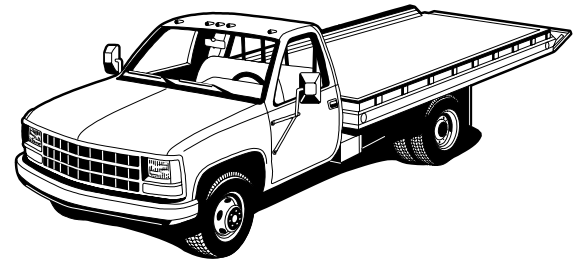
Towing and Recovery Operations—A Success by All Measures. In December, the Division of Towing and Recovery Operations reached a milestone when the 600th vehicle was sold at Towing and Recovery’s bi-monthly public auctions (started in May 2000).

More than 650 vehicles are towed to the Towing Division’s impound lot each month. “Everything from the ‘junkyard in the backyard’ to homicide vehicles,” says Larry Keefe, the Division Manager. An equal number exit the lot each month—reclaimed by the owner, auctioned, or sold for scrap.

“My first auction we sold 16 cars,” says Keefe, who arrived in April 2000 following a 22-year stint with the U.S. Navy. “Our original goal was to do \$16,000 a month in auctions. We’ve met our goal ever since. So maybe our goal was too low.”

Instead, the auctions have averaged almost \$45,000 per month and generated nearly \$2 million.

Since April 2000, the Towing Division has coordinated the removal of inoperable, recovered, confiscated and nuisance vehicles from the City’s streets by establishing concurrent contracts with several towing companies. (Previously, a private contractor handled the towing operations for the City and the Division of Fleet Maintenance held the auctions, while the Police Department auctioned vehicles that were confiscated through its vice and narcotics operations).



Efficiency and profitability are watchwords of the Towing Division. Prior to January 2003, division operations were headquartered at one location, while the impound lot was three miles away. Now both are located on the five-acre site in the southern part of the City. Shortly after becoming the manager of the newly-created division, Keefe discovered that the state’s Department of Motor Vehicles reimbursed towing companies for abandoned or unclaimed vehicles. Although it took almost 18 months to do it, he succeeded in obtaining the \$50 per vehicle reimbursement for the City.

Norfolk is the first and remains the only municipality in the state of Virginia to operate its own towing service. It is the first City of Norfolk agency to accept credit cards for payment to retrieve an impounded vehicle. Earlier this year, it became the first to utilize a check verification service. Now it is also the first or one of the first towing

operations in the nation to use bar codes and bar code scanners to maintain its vehicle inventory.

Pictures of Towing's Auction Vehicles Now Online. Ever wondered where you could get a car for a good price? Well, every Thursday, the Department of Public Works Division of Towing auctions cars to the public on a first come first served basis. In the past, potential buyers were not informed of the condition and look for the cars before the auction. Now, however, customers can view the vehicles online via the City's web page. Viewing the vehicles via Internet gives the purchasers a visual on the type of vehicles to be auctioned. Please visit the website at www.norfolk.gov/publicworks/auction_list.asp for more information on Towing's auction services.

Traffic Control: Various Locations. In response to requests from area residents, the Department of Public Works' Division of Transportation has conducted investigations regarding the posting of traffic control signs at the following locations:

- Colonial Avenue, northbound, from Burleigh Avenue to Little Creek Road. (One-way street).
- Alsace Avenue at Peronne Avenue. (Stop)
- Alsace Avenue at Vimy Ridge Avenue. (Stop)
- Bapaume Avenue at Alsace Avenue. (Stop)
- Bond Street at Marshall Avenue. (Stop)
- Brest Avenue at Alsace Avenue. (Stop)
- Dunkirk Avenue at Alsace Avenue. (Stop)
- Dunn Place at Wide Street. (Stop)
- Dunning Road at Ransom Road. (Stop)
- Executive Drive at Bayview Boulevard. (Stop)
- Jerrylee Drive at Dominion Avenue. (Stop)
- Shipp Avenue at Marshall Avenue. (Stop)

UTILITIES

Colley Avenue Upgrades. On March 14, City contractors will begin an emergency upgrade to the 80-year-old sewer system on Colley Avenue between Shirley Avenue and Maury Avenue. Brittle pipe under this intersection has failed and is in danger of further collapse without immediate repairs.

During the emergency repair, crews will maintain northbound single-lane traffic on Colley Avenue and reroute southbound truck traffic to Hampton Boulevard. Southbound car traffic will be rerouted onto Colonial Avenue to Princess Anne Road. A message

board will be in place at the corner of 21st Street and Colley Avenue to advise of the change in the traffic pattern. Motorists should expect delays in the area.

There will be no parking available along Colley between Shirley and Maury during that time, and patrons of businesses are urged to park at the lot on Spotswood Avenue across from Blair Middle School.

Weather permitting, and if additional sewer pipe damage is not found, the repair is estimated to take about four days.

After the emergency repair is completed, traffic will return to normal patterns. The upgrade is part of the Colley Avenue Streetscape Project, which also includes improvements in handicap accessibility; new sidewalks with brick pavers, curbs, and gutters; beautification related to trees and other landscaping; rehabilitation of the sewer system and portions of the water system; and pedestrian safety improvements to include crosswalk installation. The project's completion helps ensure long-term functionality and economic vitality of this commercial corridor. The City has been in daily contact with the businesses and is minimizing inconvenience by completing the project in smaller pieces than usual and scheduling the work for this time of year, with input from the community, because this is historically a lower revenue time for the businesses. The project was begun after outdoor dining season was over and will be completed before outdoor dining season begins again.

Utilities CIP Update. Willoughby Water and Sewer Upgrade, Phase II. Construction on the Willoughby Water and Sewer Upgrade Phase II began in October 2004 and is now about 7 percent complete. The contractor is presently installing water facilities in the area of 14th View and West Ocean View Avenue and installing sewer mains in the area of 8th View and W. Ocean View Avenue.

This cooperative project of the Departments of Utilities and Public Works will replace about 10,000 feet of sewer pipe, 5,000 feet of water pipe, and 1,500 feet of storm drains. Upon completion, it will improve the water and sewer services, as well as the storm drainage, to the residents of the area outlined in the map shown above. The project is scheduled for completion in early 2006.

IN THE COMMUNITY

ORGANIZATIONS NEEDED TO SERVE SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS IN NORFOLK

Are there children in your community who will go hungry this summer? Good nutrition is essential for effective learning every day, all year long. Just as learning doesn't end when school lets out, neither does the need for good nutrition. Children who

aren't hungry learn better, act better, and feel better. **Summer Meals for Kids** helps children get the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow throughout the summer months when they are out of school.

In Virginia, this program is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. USDA reimburses organizations for meals served free to children from areas in which at least 50 percent of the children qualify for free or reduced price meals under the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. Potential sponsors include public or private nonprofit school food authorities; units of local, municipal, county, state or federal governments; public or private nonprofit residential summer camps; and private nonprofit organizations. If you are a faith- or community-based organization, you can participate as a sponsor or if you are in an area covered by an existing sponsor, you may be able to operate as a feeding site under the other sponsor.

Summer Meals for Kids provides nutritional help in economically disadvantaged areas to children age 18 or younger and students over 18 who are mentally or physically disabled. It is an equal opportunity program serving all children regardless of race, color, age, national origin, sex or disability.

Most sponsors may be reimbursed for up to two meals a day (breakfast, lunch, snack or dinner). Those serving mostly migrant children may be reimbursed for up to three meals a day (or two meals and a snack). Camps also may serve up to three meals a day; however, camps will only be reimbursed for meals served to children who are eligible for free or reduced meals under the National School Lunch Program.

Although 11 organizations sponsored the program in Norfolk in 2004, they were only able to reach 3,114 children on average each day. According to statistics compiled by FNS, this is just 13.9 percent of the number of children in Norfolk who receive meals under the school breakfast and lunch programs.

Organizations interested in getting more information about the program are encouraged to call **Summer Meals for Kids** at (800) 448-USDA. You can also log on to the USDA web site at www.summerfood.usda.gov, and then click on *Contacts* where you'll find the link to *Virginia*. The deadline for submitting application is May 13, 2005.

WANTED – ONE BIG PIRATE SHIP. WE’LL EVEN HELP YOU BUILD IT!

Treasure Island is set to open this June at the Norfolk Botanical Garden. The exhibit will feature themed, interactive, outdoor “destinations” designed to educate, enrich and entertain kids of all ages. Designers submitted all sorts of ideas for the island – but no ship.

This exhibit can't set sail without a pirate ship, so an appeal is going out for designers and/or buccaneers to help build the final piece in this puzzle of fun. The Garden is



offering a stipend of up to \$3,250 to get the ship project underway.

Timeline

April 15, 2005	Design Submission Deadline
May 16 – June 6, 2005	Structures installed at Norfolk Botanical Garden
June 19, 2005	Exhibit Grand Opening
October 2, 2005	Exhibit Closes
October 3 – 9, 2005	Removal of structures by designers

Contact; Erin Harley, Event & Exhibit Specialist

Norfolk Botanical Garden
6700 Azalea Garden Road
Norfolk, VA 23518
(757) 441.5830 x312
erinharley@nbgs.org

FYI

TORNADO PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN – 2005

- Last year, 86 tornadoes touched down in several parts of Virginia. Most of them occurred in August and September and were associated with the remnants of Hurricanes Gaston, Ivan and Jeanne. However, tornadoes can occur any time of the year and often strike with little or no advance warning.
- On March 15, Virginia held a statewide tornado drill to allow Virginia's schools, businesses and residents an opportunity to practice their tornado safety plans. At the same time, the National Weather Service along with state and local emergency officials test their public warning systems.
- The general rule for tornado safety is "go low and stay low," which means go to the lowest level of the structure away from windows and crouch in a low position with your head covered.
- Mobile homes and cars are extremely unsafe during a tornado. Take cover inside a nearby sturdy building. If that's not possible, lie down in a ditch away from your mobile home or car and cover your head with your hands.



- Know the difference between a tornado WATCH and a tornado WARNING. A WATCH means current weather conditions may result in a tornado. A tornado WARNING means a tornado has been sighted. When a tornado WARNING is issued for your area, take cover immediately.
- The majority of tornadoes occur between 3 and 9 p.m. Think of where you would normally be during that time...at school, at work, in the car. You may only have a few seconds to react. Decide now where you would go if a tornado warning were issued.
- Tornadoes can occur with little or no advance warning. It's important to have a weather radio nearby so you can listen for tornado watches and warnings. If the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning for your area, your weather radio will sound an alert, indicating you need to move to a safe area immediately.
- For more information about tornado preparedness, visit www.vaemergency.com.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO

ARTS WITHIN REACH

The Norfolk Commission on the Arts and Humanities is pleased to announce the February performances in its *Arts Within Reach* series. From Berkley to Ocean View, from Park Place to Five Points, the Norfolk Arts Commission presents and supports free programs that bring great art to Norfolk communities. ***Arts Within Reach*** features free performances, workshops, and demonstrations in neighborhoods throughout the City. Get to know local artists while you enjoy their talent and creativity in a relaxed atmosphere.

March 24 (Thurs.) 11:30 a.m. – Virginia Symphony Woodwind Trio (Sherie Aguirre, Principal Oboe, Patti Ferrell Carlson, Principal Clarinet, Andrew Gott, Principal Bassoon), in a program titled “The Reeds of the Woodwinds,” presents the “*London Trios*,” a composition by Franz Joseph Haydn for the oboe, clarinet and bassoon. *Mount Zion Baptist Church, 900 Middlesex Street 664-4321*

AZALEA FESTIVAL

Norfolk's International Azalea Festival Schedule of Events
April 18 - 24, 2005

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Azalea / ACT Invitational Golf Tournament

10:30 a.m. - Driving range opens and putting contest begins / Noon - Shotgun Start / 5

p.m. - Awards Dinner at SACT Headquarters / Sewell's Point Golf Course

Cost: \$80 per person / \$280 per foursome - Call CDR Gelardi to register by April 8th

757.747.3403 Fee includes cart, greens fees, giveaways, lunch, dinner and prizes! Meet internationally recognized cartoonist Danny Shanahan from the New Yorker Magazine!

Rain date: April 18

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Grapevine Wine Social

6 - 8 p.m. / Norfolk Botanical Gardens Rose Hall

Celebrate Norway, this year's featured nation, by sipping from a wide selection of wines and nibbling delicious hors d' oeuvres while enjoying the sounds of the Jim Newsom Quintet, Strolling Silver Strings and guitarist John Boyles. Start your spring in style with a sunset tram ride through Hampton Roads' most spectacular setting and enjoy a wine tasting seminar with Peter Coe, owner of Taste Unlimited.

Tickets: \$25 per person. Call 441.5830 ext. 312 or visit www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org to reserve your tickets today!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

Conference: Transforming Maritime Security: New Approaches from NATO, Norway and the U.S. 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. / Norfolk Waterside Marriott

Cost: Free. Pre-registration is required, www.norway.org/articles/2005Conference.htm

Presented by the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Allied Command Transformation & Old Dominion University. The Conference will bring together military, business, research & community leaders, the venture investment community, & industry from both sides of the Atlantic to explore a wider sense of aspects of maritime security & safety. Attendees will explore the latest approaches in research, technology commercialization & enterprise development employed by research institutions, industry & the military.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

NATO Student Forum

Topic to be discussed "NATO: Too big for its boots?"

9 a.m. - 11 a.m. / School of International Studies at Meadowbrook Norfolk Public High School Students will discuss current NATO issues with guidance provided by Staff Officers from ACT Headquarters in this annual competition.

World Affairs Council Distinguished Speaker Dinner

6:15 p.m. - Registration / 7 p.m. - Dinner / 8 p.m. - Program / Norfolk Waterside Marriott

Cost: \$28 for WAC members, \$33 for non-members and \$12 for full time students. Please call 757.226.1202 to make your reservation. Norway's Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Knut Vollebaek, will be speaking on the Norwegian centennial and transatlantic relations.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Azalea Festival Fashion Show & Luncheon "Fjords"

11 a.m. - Cash Bar to Open / Noon - Luncheon and Fashion Show / Norfolk Waterside Marriott

Cost: \$30 / Tickets maybe purchased on line at www.azaleafestival.org Featuring the latest fashions from Dillard's and traditional Norwegian costume. Ticket price includes luncheon, one drink ticket, goodie bag and fashion show!

Flag Raising

4 p.m. / Supreme Allied Command, Transformation Flag Plaza, Blandy Road, Norfolk
The Flags of all 26 NATO member nations will be raised with musical accompaniment. Reception to follow.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Azalea Night at the Virginia International Tattoo

7:30 p.m. / Scope Arena

Cost: \$20 - \$45. Tickets available through Ticketmaster 757-671-8100 or at the Arts Festival Box Office on the 1st floor in MacArthur Center. Take a trip around the world, no passport required. Inspired by the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and the Nova Scotia Tattoo, the all-new show features more than 800 artists, making this the largest tattoo in the U.S. Expect music, dance, marching bands, acrobatics, vocalists, pipers and surprises. The 2005 Tattoo will salute Norway and pay special tribute to the valiant veterans of WWII.

26th Annual Optimist Club Azalea Festival 8k Run

6 p.m. /Norfolk Botanical Garden

Cost: \$15 pre-registered runners / \$18 after April 15 and \$1 entry into the garden The Azalea Festival 8k run is conducted on a measured course on flat, paved, roads meandering through the grounds of the beautiful Norfolk Botanical Garden when the azaleas are in full bloom. For an entry form visit www.kalerunning.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Norfolk Botanical Gardens will be free and open to the public on Saturday, April 23rd

NATOFest 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. / Norfolk Botanical Garden, NATO Vista NATOfest is a celebration of cultures highlighting different aspects of all 26 NATO member nations. A sampling of the events to be held during

NATOfest: passport contest, face painting, performers and food vendors. This is great fun for the whole family!

Parade of Nations

10 a.m. / Waterside Drive and Monticello Avenue in downtown Norfolk A fabulous parade of bands, floats & marching units will represent the 26 member nations of NATO. For group tour information please contact the Norfolk Convention & Visitors Bureau at 757.664.6620

Coronation of 52nd Queen Azalea and her Court

3 p.m. / Norfolk Botanical Garden, Renaissance Garden
Enjoy the pomp and circumstance that still embodies the Azalea Festival. Queen Azalea and her Court of 25 princesses and attendants will represent all NATO member nations in this beautiful crowning ceremony.

Queen's Dinner and Ball

"Norwegian Nights - The Magic of Lights and Ice"

6:30 p.m. cocktails / 8 p.m. dinner / 9 p.m. presentation of Queen Azalea and her Court
Norfolk Waterside Marriott

Dress: Black Tie or equivalent

Cost: \$100 per person , purchase tickets on-line at www.azaleafestival.org Inspired by the beauty of the Northern Lights and the icy landscape that is Norway, this event is fit for a Queen. Ticket price includes ladies' gift, dinner, cocktail reception, beer & wine with dinner & dancing. Music by Off the Record.

BOTANICAL GARDEN

LUNCH & LEARN – Plant Propagation: Step by Step Techniques

Friday, March 25th – 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Bring your brown bag or reserve our box lunch and sit in on this exciting new series. This winter and spring, spend one lunch hour a month learning how to be a better gardener from NBG gardeners sharing tips and ideas.

The fourth Friday of each month a NBG gardener will speak on a specific topic:

Cost: \$4 NBG Members/\$10 non-members

Box Lunches: \$10, must be pre-ordered

For more information or to register for a program visit

www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org

Or call 757.441.5830.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE CHALLENGE?

Dickson, TN – February 1, 2005 – Ready, Set, Grill - Fiesta Gas Grills and Fiesta Executive Chef, Lee McWright, are ready to team up and heat up with six new grilling competitions "The Fiesta Challenge".

The Fiesta Challenge consists of a total of six "Culinary Teams" who will compete using a Fiesta Gas Grill in a culinary rivalry. The contestants, who represent many of the World BBQ Championship teams, will grill their dishes to perfection in front of a live audience battling to be the Fiesta Challenge Grand Champion, in a winner take all cash prize. Although there can only be one winner, each team in the competition will be awarded the Fiesta Gas Grill they competed with.

To spice things up, each culinary team will be given a "mystery box" with surprise ingredients. Each ingredient must be used in the creation and presented to a judging panel of local personalities. Each judge will award points in 4 categories; Appearance, Creativity, Taste and Tenderness. Fans will have the opportunity to join the action and support their favorite team to the "Taste of Victory".

Schedule of events:

March 18 th, 2005 – New Mexico Pork & Brew BBQ State Championship
Rio Rancho, New Mexico

May 29th, 2005 – World Championship Seafood Competition
Pike Place Market, Seattle, Washington

July 15th, 2005 – World Wild Game Championship Cook-off
Springville, Alabama

August 5th, 2005 – **World's Richest Barbeque**
Norfolk, Virginia

CHRYSLER HALL

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE COMES TO NORFOLK MARCH 29 - APRIL 3

The winner of six Tony Awards including Best Musical, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* was 2002's most awarded new show on Broadway. Now the spectacular experience that is *Millie* is coming to **Chrysler Hall in Norfolk from March 29 to April 3**. The production is directed by Michael Mayer, and choreographed by Rob Ashford.

Based on the 1967 Oscar-winning film of the same name, it takes audiences back to the height of the Jazz Age, when “moderns”—including a flapper named Millie Dillmount—were bobbing their hair, raising their hemlines, entering the workforce, and rewriting the rules of love. This singing, dancing, romancing musical takes place in Manhattan, 1922, with all the jazz-age razzmatazz you want in a big, bright, brand-new Broadway blockbuster. It's the story of a midwestern girl who arrives in New York determined to take the town by storm. USA Today says *Millie* is "a thoroughly delightful experience." And as Time Out New York says, "you can't see this kind of whirling, transporting pop entertainment anywhere else!"

Thoroughly Modern Millie plays March 29 to April 3. Tickets go on sale Monday, February 21 at 10:00am, prices range from \$46.25 to \$60.25, plus service charges, and can be charged by phone by calling 757-671-8100, on line at www.ticketmaster.com or at the SCOPE Box Office. For groups of 20 or more, call 1-888-500-B'WAY (2929). For more info: www.modernmillietour.com

Broadway's Award-Winning Best Musical

DISNEY'S THE LION KING

Group Tickets Now on Sale!!

Disney's The Lion King has been confirmed for a multiple-week limited engagement at Chrysler Hall in Norfolk beginning December 9th, 2005. This United States National Tour is currently one of nine productions running worldwide along with New York, Tempe, Sydney, London, Hamburg, Scheveningen, Tokyo and Nagoya. Opening night in Norfolk is set for Saturday, December 10th at 8:00 p.m., with preview performances on December 9th at 8:00 p.m. and December 10th at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale for groups of (20) or more. A toll free number, 1-888-500-BWAY (2929), is available for group ticket information and to place an order. Groups should order now to get the best seats before tickets go on sale to the general public in June 2005.

CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART

Flowers & Art: April 1-3, 2005; See the Chrysler Museum of Art's galleries transformed—as a great masterworks are interpreted by fabulous floral arrangements.

Spring returns to the Chrysler Museum of Art with Flowers & Art, a biennial celebration of the season and the Museum's collections. This special three-day event takes place from Friday, April 1 through Sunday, April 3, 2005, and brings together masterpieces

from the Chrysler's permanent collection and the floral artistry of some of Virginia's finest arrangers. The schedule includes lectures and workshops as well as gala events. For more information on tickets, programs, and events please visit www.chrysler.org or call (757) 333-6318.

Friday, April 1: Afternoon Tea and Sneak Preview; Huber Court; 4:00 p.m. Join us for an elegant afternoon tea and be the first to preview this year's fabulous floral arrangements. \$50/per person

Saturday, April 2:

Ron Morgan Floral Demonstration; Kaufman Theatre; 10:30 a.m. Ron Morgan, one of the most sought after and recognized floral designers in the US and author of *Center of Attention*, will share his skills and insight on floral design. A book signing will follow his presentation. \$40/per person.

Spring Fashion Show & Luncheon; Huber Court; 12:30 p.m. Share a seated gourmet luncheon, a glass of wine, and preview spring fashions compliments of Binns of Williamsburg. \$40/per person.

Ron Morgan Advanced Workshop; Diamonstein Education Workshop; 2:00 p.m.; Ron Morgan will collaborate with advanced arrangers to share ideas and creative techniques. Class size is limited to 25. \$150/per person.

Belle Epoch Gala Dinner; Waitzer Community Gallery; 7:00 p.m.; Enjoy an exquisite five-course meal with fine wines. After dinner, join A Cosmopolitan Evening for dancing with the Charles Darden Band. \$800/per couple.

A Cosmopolitan Evening; Huber Court; 7:30 p.m.; Join us for an elegant buffet, desserts and dancing with the Charles Darden Band. \$100/per person.

Sunday, April 3: Beverly Church: "Seasonal Celebrations...Southern Style"; Kaufman Theatre; 2:00 p.m. Beverly Church, celebrated floral designer, New Orleans author and editor, will present a floral demonstration sure to inspire. A book signing will follow her presentation. \$40/per person.

April 2 & 3: General Admission: Ticket includes all Museum Galleries and Moses Myers House. Floral-themed gallery tours and other offerings will be available during the weekend. \$12/per person (\$2 member discount).

Stop by the Moses Myers House to enjoy arrangements inspired by Elizabeth Wirt's early 19th-century book *Flora's Dictionary*. Interpreters will offer special tours exploring the use of floral motifs in the newly-restored ornamental plasterwork, garden tours and hands-on activities.

Visit the Jean Outland Chrysler Library throughout the weekend to register for a book drawing and enjoy light refreshments.

Visit the Museum Shop for fresh flowers, floral books, a rainbow of Flowers & Art aprons and other spring goodies that are sure to delight.

CURRENTLY ON VIEW AT THE CHRYSLER

Touch Me I'm Sick: Rock 'n' Roll Photography by Charles Peterson on View Through May 1, 2005; Alice R. and Sol B. Frank Photography Galleries. During the late 1980s and early '90s photographer Charles Peterson found himself at the center of an explosive underground music scene that began in the quiet Northwest city of Seattle—this movement was become an eyewitness to the birth of an extraordinary new era in music that grabbed the world's attention and refused to let go. This is Charles Peterson's first museum exhibition and is sponsored by For Art's Sake: Young Affiliates of the Chrysler. Media sponsorship is provided by *Ninevolt* magazine and WROX 96X FM.

Photography Speaks: Through May 22, 2005; Alice R. and Sol B. Frank Photography Galleries. The current exhibition *Photography Speaks* highlights recent acquisitions to the Chrysler's impressive photography collection, including works by Mathew Brady, Southworth and Hawes, Adolph Braun, Andre Kertesz, James Abbe, Bob Lerner, Eikoh Hosoe, Rineke Dijkstra, Thomas Struth and Gabriel Orozco.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

The Virginian-Pilot Student Gallery 2005; March 26-April 22, 2005; McKinnon Galleries of Modern Art. This unique exhibition gives Hampton Roads' high-school art students the opportunity to enter into friendly competition with their peers. During the three weeks of March 26-April 22 the works of finalists will be on display at the Chrysler while the honorees' work will be shown at the Contemporary Art Center of Virginia in Virginia Beach. This exhibition is sponsored by *The Virginian-Pilot*, PilotOnline.com, HamptonRoads.com and SunTrust Bank.

Photographs by Barbara Morgan; April 29 through August 28, 2005; Waitzer Community Gallery. Also in conjunction with the 2005 Virginia Arts Festival, the

Chrysler is please to present *Photographs by Barbara Morgan*. The show will consist of 20 photographs by Barbara Morgan of the legendary choreographer and dancer Martha Graham. The photographs are loaned by the estate of Barbara Morgan—Lloyd and Janet Morgan. For more information on the Martha Graham Dance group performances during this year's festival please call 282-2819 or visit www.virginiaartsfest.com

SENIORS ART FORUM

The Seniors Art Forum is a senior citizens group that meets at 2 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month for a tour, discussion, and light refreshments. No reservations are necessary for individuals, but please call (757) 333-6268 for group reservations. Cost: included with Museum admission.

The Moses Myers House: Time Capsule from the Early Republic; Saturday, April 9; With a multimedia presentation and tour of the Moses Myers House, Acting Curator of Historic Houses Gary E. Baker will share the latest discoveries and insights on the House and its furnishings.

Begun in summer 2004, the first phase of an extensive restoration project, has revealed a wealth of previously unknown detail and richness in architectural ornament. Join Mr. Baker to hear about these latest exciting developments, as well as future plans for this Norfolk treasure.

CHRYSLER CREATES

Each month, we offer two Chrysler Creates studio art classes, one for adults and one for children. The topic and instructor of each class change on a monthly basis. For more information, to register, or to obtain a materials list, please visit our website or call 333-6268.

Adults: Drawing with the Masters; Wednesdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27; 6-8 p.m.

Beginning and intermediate students will perfect their abilities to render three-dimensional forms on a two-dimensional plane. Under the instruction of Rosalee Phelps students will use masterworks from the Permanent Collection to study light and shadow, perspective, value, abstraction, and other principles relevant to the medium of drawing. Cost: \$75 Museum Members, \$100 non-members, plus materials.

Adults: Illustrating Children's Books; Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18, 25; 6-8 p.m.

Students will learn about the process of children's book illustration with instructor Julia Burgess. While the class will focus primarily on drawing and painting techniques, other topics will be explored such as writing and publishing children's stories as well as

marketing your book. Students should have some drawing and/or painting experience. Cost: \$75 Museum Members, \$100 non-members, plus materials.

Children (9-12 years old): Drawing—Basics for the Young Artist; Saturdays, April 9, 16, 30; 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Under the instruction of Donna Iona Drozda each child will be encouraged to let his or her natural style emerge through a series of exercises designed to “open the artist’s eye.” Each week, a visit to the galleries for inspiration on how the masters worked will precede instruction. Cost: \$40 Museum Members, \$55 non-members, plus materials.

Children (13-17 years old): Design from Around the World; Saturdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28; 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Instructor: Jacob King. This “beginners” class will expose students to various design traditions and practices throughout world history and culture. Using examples from ancient, indigenous, and modern art, students will create ink drawings and linoleum prints from a sketch of their own design. Cost: \$50 Museum Members, \$75 non-members, plus materials.

d'ART CENTER

d'Art Smart. This holiday season, the d'ART Center kicked off **d'ART Smart**, an initiative to bring ART into the lives of deserving young people. For 10 years, the d'ART Center has provided art instruction to under-served and at risk teens, witnessing first hand that success in ART contributes to success in LIFE. This year, the d'Art Center collected donations of art supplies. Three huge boxes of donations were distributed to the children and ForKids Art Therapists.

"The creative arts are a very natural and effective form of therapy for at-risk children. It allows them to express their thoughts and feelings in a healthy and productive way" says ForKids therapist, Nicole Moriarty. These art supplies will assist us greatly in our efforts to help these kids build a brighter future.

Each year over 2,500 children are homeless in Hampton Roads, and ForKids provides the housing, education and support services to help nearly 250 of these kids and their families become self sufficient. Art is an isolated bright spot in an otherwise difficult day for many of these children.

d'ART Smart is a year round program benefiting deserving children in Hampton Roads. Your financial contributions and sponsorships are always welcome. d'ART Smart's continuing art education programs include the d'ART Center's Art Day Camp running June, July and August 2005 in our new home at the Selden Arcade.

The d'ART CENTER is a regional, private, non-profit, visual art facility featuring 40 resident visual artists creating, displaying and selling original fine art. Our special events support the center's mission of connecting the public with the visual arts process. Admission to the d'ART Center is free and open to the public Tuesday - Saturday 10-6

pm and Sunday 1-5 pm. We are currently located at 125 College Place, Norfolk VA 23510 ~ moving to Selden Arcade in early 2005! For more information about these or any other events at d'ART Center, please call 757.625.4211 or visit our website www.d-artcenter.org.

The d'ART Center is FREE and open to the public Tuesday - Saturday 10-6:00 pm and Sundays 1-5 pm. We are located in downtown Norfolk on the corner of Boush Street and 125 College Place - one block from MacArthur Mall. For more information call the d'ART Center 625-4211, visit our website, www.d-artcenter.org.

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FESTEVENTS

In its 23rd season of bringing lively warm weather entertainment to Norfolk's stunning downtown waterfront, **Norfolk Festevents** remains a leading innovator in the staging of outdoor festivals, concerts and city celebrations.

29th Annual Norfolk Harborfest, June 10 – 12, Town Point Park

For the past 28 years, Norfolk has celebrated its unique maritime geography by hosting **Norfolk Harborfest**, named “**Best Outdoor Festival**” in Hampton Roads Magazine's “Best of 2004” Reader's Choice Awards. Magnificent sailing vessels, pleasure craft, US Navy and Coast Guard ships, cruise liners and the recently completed **Schooner Virginia** will travel the Elizabeth River to the Norfolk harbor. Onshore, hundreds of thousands of visitors will enjoy food, games, demonstrations, fireworks and more than 110 hours of live entertainment on eight stages. This year's headliners include **The Supremes**, starring Mary Wilson, **Percy Sledge** (recently inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame), **Chely Wright**, **Old Crow Medicine Show** and **The Charlie Daniels Band**. Also making an appearance at this year's Norfolk Harborfest will be **Dale Earnhardt Jr.**'s # 8 **NASCAR show car**. **Norfolk Harborfest** begins on Friday with the Parade of Sail and continues through Sunday evening.. **Admission is free.**

16th Annual Cingular Bayou Boogaloo and Cajun Food Festival, June 24 – 26, Town Point Park

One of the most popular festivals in Town Point Park, the **Bayoo Boogaloo** is one of the hottest weekends of the year. The sights and sounds of New Orleans will fill the Downtown Norfolk waterfront with Bayou flavor and culture as three stages showcase national entertainment, such as **Galactic, Cowboy Mouth, C J Chenier, Lil Malcolm and the Zydeco Houserockers, Nathan and the Zydeco Cha Chas, and John Popper Project**. Also spicing up the weekend will be **Louisiana style cooking** demonstrations and exciting shows and children's activities. **Admission**

Cingular Concerts at the Point, every Friday in May, Town Point Park

The music rolls out every Friday night in May with the **Cingular Concerts at the Point**. This year, WPTE, 94.9 FM, The Point, Full House Concerts and Norfolk Festevents presents the melodic tunes of **Gavin DeGraw** with special guest **Michael Tolcher** and **Jem** on May 6, the heart-tugging lyrics of **Lifehouse** on May 20, and the up-and-coming sounds of **Ryan Cabrera** on May 27. **Admission**

23rd Annual Cingular 4th of July Great American Picnic and Fireworks, Town Point Park

Arena Racing USA teams return for the 3rd year to compete in the **Firecracker 40** street race. Revelers can compete in the **"Backyard Olympics"** that include such intriguing contests as the "Ants in Your Pants Relay Race" and the "Slip n' Slide Speedway." And along with a **spectacular fireworks** display, Norfolk honors the 4th with a moving Navy re-enlistment ceremony, followed by a patriotic performance by the U.S. Atlantic Fleet Band. **Admission is free.**

23rd Annual Cingular Norfolk Jazz Festival, July 15 – 16, Town Point Park

The Norfolk Jazz Festival celebrates its 23rd season as the largest outdoor Jazz Festival in the region. This year's Friday night show features a jazz festival favorite, Spyro Gyra. Stanley Jordan and the "Groovin' for Grover" tour, featuring Gerald Albright, Kirk Whallum and Jeff Lorber, will be Saturday's headliners. More acts to be announced at a later date. Daily or weekend general admission and weekend reserved-seating tickets go on sale May 1 Admission \$.

2nd Annual Cingular Bluegrass in the Park Festival, July 30, Town Point Park

Last year's inaugural **Bluegrass in the Park Festival** was a huge success, attracting bluegrass fans from across the region. This year the event is scheduled on a weekend date for an even better musical experience with bluegrass legends **Ralph Stanley, Nashville Bluegrass Band, Lonesome River Band** and **Hackensaw Boys** taking the stage all in

one Saturday! Not only can great bluegrass music be heard this weekend, but it can also be learned with local bluegrass artists teaching workshops throughout the day provided by Tidewater Friends of Folk Music. **Admission**

Virginia In-Water Boat Expo, Sept. 9 – 11, Town Point Park and Norfolk Waterside Marina

Co-produced by the National Marine Manufacturers Association, the latest in boats, engines and accessories will be displayed on land and in water at the inaugural **Virginia In-Water Boat Expo**. On the same weekend at Town Point Park, **Norfolk Festevents** will host the Cingular **Norfolk Seafood Sampler** and **Beach Music Festival** with musical groups including **Bill Deal's Rhondells, The Embers, Band of Oz, Coolin Out, The Showmen, and The O'Kaysions**. **Admission \$** (Boat Expo) and **free** (Seafood Sampler and Beach Music Fest).

17th Annual Cingular Virginia Children's Festival, Oct. 1, Town Point Park

With more than 50 creative and interactive activities, hands-on workshops and educational displays, cultural experiences, arts and crafts and more, the Cingular **Virginia Children's Festival** has become one of Hampton Roads' most beloved family festivals. This is a whole day of activities geared toward children 10 and younger and this year's festival features the "Reading is Fun with Sesame Street" theme with favorite costume characters joining the program such as **Dora the Explorer** and the cast of **Alice in Wonderland**. **Admission**

18th Annual Cingular Town Point Virginia Wine Festival, Oct. 15 – 16, Town Point Park

Voted "**Best Event for Wine Lovers**" in Hampton Roads Magazine's "Best of 2004," the Cingular **Town Point Virginia Wine Festival** is one of the Old Dominion's largest and most well-attended wine festivals featuring products from more than 30 Virginia wineries this year. Guests, who often join friends to reserve entire tables and stock them with cheese and other delicacies can roam the booths, sampling the state's finest merlots and chardonnays as well as purchase cases to take home. **Admission**

For information on purchasing tickets or on specific events, please call Norfolk Festevents at 757-441-2345 or visit the web site at www.festeventsva.org. For media queries, contact Kelley Anderson at Rubin Communications Group, 757-456-5212, kelly@rubincommunications.com.

Overview of Norfolk Festevents 2005 Season Calendar

Town Point Park – TPP

April

April 11: Mayor's Friends of Festevents Season Kick-off Reception– Town Point Club

April 12: Norfolk Friends of Festevents Golf Tournament- Ocean View Golf Course

May

May 5: **Cinco de Mayo** celebration – Waterside Amphitheater

May 14: 4th Annual **Virginia Beer Festival** (co-produced with the Virginia Arts Festival) – TPP

May 28 – 30: **AFR' AM Fest** (produced by SEVAA) – TPP

May 6, 13, 20, 27: Cingular **Concerts at the Point** – TPP

Sundays, May 29 – Sept. 4: **Big Bands on the Bay** – Ocean View Beach Park

May 15 – 20: International Navy Ship, *Spiro* from Argentina – Norfolk Waterfront

May 17 – 21: Tall Ship, *Esmeralda* from Chile – Norfolk Waterfront

June

June 10 – 12: 29th Annual **Norfolk Harborfest** - TPP

June 24 – 26: 16th Annual Cingular **Bayou Boogaloo and Cajun Food Festival** – TPP

June 24 – 27: Tall Ship, *Danmark* from Denmark – Norfolk Waterfront

July

July 1: **Shore Thing and Independence Day Celebration** – Ocean View Beach Park

July 4: 23rd Annual Cingular 4th of July **Great American Picnic and Fireworks** – TPP

July 15 – 16: 23rd Annual Cingular **Norfolk Jazz Festival** – TPP

July 30: 2nd Annual Cingular **Bluegrass in the Park Festival** – TPP

Sundays, July 3, 10, 17, 24: Cingular **Town Point Sundays with Lewis McGehee** – TPP

Fridays: July 8 – August 26: **TGOV**, music entertainment – Ocean View Beach Park

August

August 20: 4th Annual **Norfolk Latino Festival** – TPP

Sundays August. 7, 14, 21, 28: Cingular **Town Point Sundays Concert Series** – TPP

September

Sept. 9 – 11: **Virginia In-Water Boat Expo** – Norfolk Waterfront

Sept. 9 – 11: 4th Annual Cingular **Norfolk Seafood Sampler and Beach Music Festival** – TPP

October

Oct. 1: 17th Annual Cingular **Virginia Children's Festival** – TPP

Oct. 7: Norfolk's Salute to **Fleet Week Concert** - TPP

Oct. 15 – 16: **18th Annual Cingular** Town Point Virginia Wine Festival - **TPP**

HERMITAGE FOUNDATION MUSEUM

Hermitage Foundation Museum Announces Spring Art Class Offerings

and Membership Drive

The Hermitage Foundation Museum also announces its first Membership Drive. Joining the Hermitage Foundation Museum affords discounts on art class registration fees, as well as free admission to the museum, special invitations and announcements and many other benefits. To join the Hermitage or for more information on the Visual Arts School, including class registration, contact the Hermitage Foundation Museum at 757-423-2052 or visit the Web site at www.hermitagefoundation.org.

The Visual Arts School, located on the beautiful grounds of the Hermitage, houses classrooms, a complete ceramics studio, and state-of-the-art photography facilities. Formerly home to the Sloane family, the Hermitage is surrounded by twelve acres of woodlands and gardens on the shore of the Lafayette River. The Hermitage offers 45-minute guided tours, on the hour, of fifteen galleries filled with the Sloane family world-wide art collection, furniture, and history. Two galleries feature changing art exhibitions.

HURRAH PLAYERS

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

May 20, 2005 - 7:00 PM

May 21, 2005 - 3:00 PM

May 22, 2005 - 3:00 PM

FOOTLOOSE

July 29, 2005 - 7:00 PM

July 30, 2005 - 3:00 PM

July 31, 2005 - 300 PM

All shows are performed at the TCC Roper Center on Granby Street in Norfolk. Tickets are \$10, \$15 and \$20. Call 627-5437 or visit www.hurrahplayers.com for more information.

LIBRARIES

There's something for Everyone @ your library
Celebrate National Library Week: April 10-16

National Library Week is a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers.

Books. Magazines. Videos. CDs. Databases. Internet access. You name it. The Norfolk Public Library has something for everyone.

National Library Week is sponsored by the American Library Association and celebrated by libraries across the county. The week is not only a great time to see what's new @ your library but also a time to stand up and speak out as a library advocate," adds Lauren Connor, President of the Friends of the Norfolk Public Library. "There are lots of opportunities to help -- including volunteer opportunities, joining the Friends group, offering to read to children, joining in the book sale, promoting a program, petitioning for more funding, and/or appearing at a town hall meeting on behalf of the library."

For more information about National Library Week and about becoming a library advocate, visit NPL at www.npl.lib.va.us, call 664-7328, or see the library's Web site at www.npl.lib.va.us.

As part of this annual event, the library will host the following programs and events:

1:30 p.m., Friday, April 8

Create Your Own Me-Book! - In preparation for National Library Week we will make books. The books can be all about you, or a friend, or even your dog! We'll provide the materials, you bring any pictures you want to include. Age groups: School Age. Park Place Branch, 620 West 29th Street, 757-664-7330

10:00 a.m., Saturday, April 9

Daddy and Me: Breakfast and a Book - Meet Our Friend, Franklin the Turtle. Gear up for National Library Week with Franklin the Turtle. Join us for breakfast, hear some great turtle tales and learn some terrific new fingerplays. Bring the whole family and don't forget your camera for pictures with our favorite turtle. Age Groups: Family. Lafayette Branch, 1610 Cromwell Drive, 757-441-2842

April 10 - 16

Franklin the Turtle visits the library! - Make friend with Franklin, the loveable character from books written by Paulette Bourgeois. Join us at your local branch library for some terrific turtle stories, games and activities. To find out when Franklin will be at your local branch library visit. Check out the dates and times below:

Sunday, April 10:

2:00 p.m. Kirn Memorial Library

6:00 p.m. Blyden Branch Library

Wednesday, April 13:

10:30 a.m. Horace Downing Branch Library

6:30 p.m. Pretlow Branch Library

Thursday, April 14:

10:30 a.m. Little Creek Branch Library

1:00 p.m. Janaf Branch Library

Friday, April 15:

10:30 a.m. Park Place Branch Library

4:00 p.m. Larchmont Branch Library

Saturday, April 16:

11:00 a.m. Van Wyck Branch Library

3:00 p.m. Jordan-Newby Branch Library

3:30 p.m., Monday, April 11 - Thursday, April 14

Show your Talents. Celebrate National Library Week with Larchmont Branch Library. We will have a different craft project each day, join us for one or all. Monday we will create watercolor masterpieces, Tuesday is a make-it-and-take-it beading program, Wednesday you can create a collage of your perfect room and Thursday choose a ceramic piece to paint. We supply the materials and you supply the creativity! Age groups: All. Larchmont Branch, 6525 Hampton Blvd., 757-441-5335

4:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 12

Something for Everyone @ Your Library - Celebrate National Library Week with our featured foreign language collection of books, videos and other materials. Sample international refreshments too! Age groups: School Age. Barron F. Black Homework Center, 6700 E. Tanners Creek, 757-441-5806

Free Programs

March 2005

Wednesday, March 23

- **Preview Virginia Opera Presents "Faust".** 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 23. Mr. Glenn Winters of the Virginia Opera will preview the April 2005 production of "Faust". This is an all-ages program and middle and high school students are encouraged to attend. Age Groups: All Ages. Larchmont Branch Library, 6525 Hampton Blvd. 757-441-5335. Free

Saturday, March 26

- **Bead Craft Workshop.** 11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 26. Learn about the history of jewelry making presented by Carolyn Miller, and make a sample. Age Groups: Teens. Horace C. Downing Branch Library, 555 East Liberty Street. 757-441-1968. Free

Tuesday, March 29

- **Women Change America.** 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 29. Celebrate the ways in which the spirit, courage, and contributions of American women have added to the richness and diversity of American life through reader's theatre. Age Groups: Teens. Barron F. Black Homework Center, 6700 E. Tanners Creek Drive. 757-441-5806. Free

MACARTHUR CENTER

March 24: Downtown Divas Promotion Begins! Stylish women of all ages are encouraged to sign up in MacArthur Center's Downtown Diva's Promotion! We're looking for College, Cosmopolitan, Suburban or Sophisticated Divas! To sign up, or for more information, visit Customer Service on the first level of the mall or check out.

MEETING NOTICES

Norfolk Alliance for People With Mental Retardation: April 21, 2005 at 1161 Ingleside Road, 7:00-8:30 p.m. with social period beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information call Pat McKeil at 423-7609.

LOCAL ARTISTS HIGHLIGHTED AT INSIDE AFRICA EXHIBIT AT NAUTICUS

Two local artists provide a stunning art show in conjunction with the INSIDE AFRICA exhibition at Nauticus. Norfolk native and renowned artist, Maizelle Brown is showing paintings and mixed media pieces. Solomon Isekeije, originally of West Africa and now an art professor at Hampton and Norfolk State universities, is showing several pieces in a variety of media. Their combined works present visitors with vivid color and bold, original designs. Their art works will be on display in the 2nd floor Forecastle Gallery until April 15.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Nauticus, the National Maritime Center, is looking for volunteers; ages 14 and up. We also are interested in senior/retired adults who would enjoy giving back to the community

volunteering for a few hours a week. Nauticus has volunteer opportunities such as: Cruise ship, Education, Aquarium, and volunteering in the gift shop. If interested please call: 664-1043, or e-mail Barbara.weingartner@norfolk.gov

Ongoing Programs & Events

Saturday & Sunday, 1 p.m.

Eco Exploration. Discover plants and animals in our own waterway, The Elizabeth River, during this 30-minute hands-on discovery walk! Learn about biological conditions by collecting water and aquatic specimen samples. Plus, learn more about river ecology and the Chesapeake Bay.

Weekdays, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, 11:30 a.m. (Sat. only), 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

Shark Touch. What does a shark's skin feel like? If you're daring, you can find out at Nauticus' Shark Petting Lagoon, where you can touch the back of a warm-water Nurse Shark. Sharks in the Lagoon vary in length from two to three feet.

Weekdays, 3:30 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 3 p.m.

Grando Electro Show. Experience the science of static electricity, sparks, and electrical charges in a safe and controlled manner. You'll get a "charge" out of it!

Saturday & Sunday; 12:45 and 2:45 p.m.

Kiddie Tidepool and Storytime. Geared toward early learners, this program explores the ecology of the Elizabeth River. Plus, enjoy a special reading of a maritime-related story.

Saturday & Sunday; Noon

Battle Blast. Have a "blast" during Nauticus' newest science demonstration! Created in conjunction with the USS *Wisconsin*, this program investigates the science and technology behind the battleship and explores force, ballistics, density and combustion through a variety of hands-on experiments.

Weekdays, 1:30 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 11a.m. & 4 p.m.

CoolScience. Liquids boiling without a stove! Gases turning into liquid! Balloons exploding with bright flashes of light and heat! These are a few of the amazing hands-on experiments you can see in this program sponsored in-part by BOC Gases.

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.

Shark Feeding. Watch Nauticus' live sharks eat as you learn about shark behavior and ecology!

Saturday & Sunday, 2 p.m.

Weather Wonders.

Large-Format Films

Daily; selected times

The Living Sea. This large-format film celebrates the world ocean - its beauty, diversity and importance to all life on Earth. Swim with thousands of golden jellyfish and witness the bizarre spawning behavior of giant clams. Surf in Hawaii, deep-sea dive in Palau and test your courage with the Coast Guard in some of the world's roughest seas! Follow a Remotely Operated Vehicle 3,000 feet down through the ocean depths to view strange creatures (one as long as a football field!), which live where sunlight never penetrates.

Daily; selected times

The Last Battleship: USS Wisconsin

Discover why the Battleship *Wisconsin* is one of the most unique battleships in the world. Experience the excitement and nostalgia as some of the world's largest guns fire from the deck for the last time. This half-hour documentary, produced by Wisconsin Public Television, chronicles the life of the Battleship *Wisconsin*, defines its unique place in history and profiles the courageous men who went to war on its decks.

STOCKLEY GARDENS ARTS FESTIVAL

The 21st Annual Stockley Gardens Spring Arts Festival is a two-day festival featuring over 150 artists displaying and selling their works. Stockley Gardens Park offers the festival a distinctive atmosphere with its peaceful garden setting in the heart of the historic district in Ghent, Norfolk. The festival attracts between 25,000 to 30,000 people who enjoy the art, live music, an array of food and the community atmosphere in the event held in the spring and fall each year.

The festival has been featured in 64 Magazine's special issue as one of the "64 Reasons Why We Love Virginia" and what the Reader's Choice 2001 Hampton Roads Monthly voted as the 2nd Best Annual Outdoor Festival, only under Harborfest. In February 2004, readers in Hampton Roads Monthly chose The Stockley Gardens Arts Festival as the "Best Place to Buy Art!"

The event is organized by Hope House Foundation, a local non-profit organization that provides supportive living services for people with developmental disabilities. For over 40 years, Hope House has provided the services and the vision to improve the lives of hundreds of adults with mental retardation across South Hampton Roads. Proceeds from the Stockley Gardens Arts Festival support the programs of the organization and necessities for the people who receive services such as assistance with food, medical expenses and housing.

This event will be held on Saturday, May 14 from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm and Sunday, May 15 from 12 noon – 6:00 p.m. at the Stockley Gardens Park on the corner of Stockley Gardens & Olney Road in the Ghent section of Norfolk.

TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jamaica Kincaid Crosses Generations and Ethnic Boundaries

Acclaimed writer and novelist to highlight TCC's 4th Annual Literary Festival

Festival also to feature Sharyn McCrumb and other authors

Tidewater Community College launches its 4th Annual Literary Festival with a schedule of activities and speakers ranging from famous national writers to regional talented authors. The Literary Festival promotes cultural development of the entire Hampton Roads community.

Held April 4 through April 8, this exciting annual festival presents world-renowned authors, poetry readings, receptions and faculty and students' literary works. **All events are free and open to the public.**

Award-winning writer and novelist Jamaica Kincaid opens the festival at 7 p.m. on April 4 at the TCC Jeanne and George Roper Performing Arts Center in Norfolk. And at 7 p.m. on April 5, famed Appalachian novelist Sharyn McCrumb will treat the audience to her experiences in weaving ballad novels.

Kincaid, a native of Antigua, has become one of the most influential and important authors writing today. She is known for her books that vividly describe the difficult coming-of-age of strong-minded girls who, very much like herself, were born into poverty. Her style has been described as "emotional truthfulness," and Kincaid has carved out a unique place in American literature, with novels such as *Annie John*, *Lucy*, *A Small Place* and *At the Bottom of the River*, which won the Morton Dauwen Zabel Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts.

Kincaid left Antigua at the age of 17, bound for New York and a job as an au pair. After working for three years and taking night classes at a community college, Kincaid won a full scholarship to Franconia College in New Hampshire. Back in New York she started a job writing interviews for a teenage girls' magazine. Kincaid's work in *The Village Voice* and *Ingenue* magazine caught the attention of then-legendary editor Williams Shawn of *The New Yorker*. Kincaid became a staff writer for the magazine in 1976 and stayed there for nine years.

The complete Literary Festival activities are as follows:

Monday, April 4

Student/Faculty/Staff readings

1 p.m., Room 2502, Norfolk Campus

Keynote Address - Jamaica Kincaid

7 p.m., TCC Jeanne and George Roper Performing Arts Center, Norfolk Campus

Tuesday, April 5

Student/Faculty/Staff Readings

12:30 p.m., Waterfront Conference Room, Portsmouth Campus

Student/Faculty/Staff Readings

12:30 p.m. Room B100, Virginia Beach Campus

Sharyn McCrumb

7 p.m., Pungo Auditorium, Virginia Beach Campus

Sharyn McCrumb's award-winning novels celebrating the history and folklore of Appalachia have received scholarly acclaim and ranked on the *New York Times* Best-Seller lists. A graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with an MA in English from Virginia Tech, she has lectured on her work at Oxford University, the University of Bonn- Germany, and the Smithsonian Institution; taught a writers workshop in Paris, and served as writer-in-residence at King College in Tennessee. The Appalachian Writer's Association in 1997 honored Sharon for Outstanding Contribution to Appalachian Literature. She has a long list of awards to her credit.

Wednesday, April 6

Jay Paul

11 a.m., Waterfront Conference Room, Portsmouth Campus

Jay Paul is a professor of English at Christopher Newport University where he directs the honors program and teaches advanced writing and honors seminars. His publications range from poetry to short fiction, critical studies and book reviews. His poems have appeared in many publications including *Hyperion*, *New Virginia Review*, *Panoply*, *Poetry Northwest*, and *Shenandoah*. A collection of his poems, *Going Home in Flood Time*, was published in 1999.

Tim Seibles

1 p.m., Room 2505, Norfolk Campus

In addition to *Hammerlock*, Tim Seibles is the author of *Body Moves* and *Hurdy-Gurdy*. His newest collection, *Buffalo Head Solos*, has just been released by the Cleveland State University Poetry Center. He is a former NEA fellow and received an Open Voice Award from the 63rd Street Y in New York City. His work has been featured in anthologies such

as *Humor Me*, *Role Call*, *Outsiders*, and *The Poets' Grimm*. He has led workshops for Cave Canem – a retreat for African American writers – and for the Zora Neale Hurston-Richard Wright Foundation. He lives in Norfolk where he teaches courses for Old Dominion University's English department and MFA in writing program.

Thursday, April 7

John Slade

Noon, Chesapeake Campus Theater

John Slade, an English professor with a doctorate in literature from Stanford University, has taught in the United States, the Caribbean, Norway and Russia, and is the author of 10 books. Slade's passion for life and the environment are evident in his writings. He will feature his most recent novel, *Oslo*, in April, an engaging tale about a symphonic conductor.

Collegewide Faculty Readings

7 p.m., Room 2057 A/B, Whitehurst Building, Chesapeake Campus

Rick Alley is the author of *The Talking Book of July*, a book of poems published by Eastern Washington University press.

Rachel Blue Ankney has been published by the *Chrysler Museum of Art-Celebration of Ekphrasis*. She is currently working on her memoir, *The Last of the Handpicked Tomatoes*, and her compilation of poems, *This Island's History*.

Joe Antinarella has co-authored three books on teaching writing.

Robert P. Arthur has published a best-selling book of poetry, *Hymn to the Chesapeake*, and has published or had produced 18 other books and/or plays. Two of his poem/plays have won Port Folio awards and he has been awarded three life-time Achievement Awards for Poetry, Playwriting and Criticism, including the Christians in the Arts Award in 2002.

Susan Boland, who teaches English as a Second Language, has recently joined the TCC faculty. Susan primarily works in creative nonfiction, and has been published in *The Virginian-Pilot*, *Naval History Magazine* and *Portfolio*. Her work, as well as more information about Susan, is available at www.tcc.edu/faculty/webpages/SBoland.

Mike Cohen has been on the adjunct faculty for more than 10 years, teaching math at the Norfolk Campus and physics at Chesapeake. He is also on the adjunct faculty at Old Dominion University and works full time as a senior contract administrator for Northrop Grumman Newport News.

William Galloway has published poems in *Western Humanities Review*, *Exquisite Corpse*, *The Sow's Ear*, and some smaller publications in California.

Doug Thiele is a poet and lyricist who received his masters degree in creative writing from Indiana University. His lyrics have been recorded by major recording artists, and he is internationally published in the craft of songwriting. His latest collection of poems, *Like Chinese Milk*, is available at www.amazon.com.

Laurie Sisson Skidmore White - With a penchant for musings inspired by others' tales - useful in her work as TCC's chief communications officer - White wrote and designed a short book about 12 collectors for her graduate thesis. *A Passion for the Hunt: The Collector's Soul*, sits only on the shelves of family and friends.

Tom Williams's poems have appeared in *Blue Collar Review*, *Stray Dog* and *Poets Against The War*. He is a poetry editor for *Ordinary Review*.

All events are free and open to the public. Call 757-822-1122 for more information or visit the web site, <http://www.tcc.edu/LiteraryFestival/index.htm>.

VIRGINIA ARTS FESTIVAL

9th Annual Festival

April 21-May 22, 2005

City Key:	(C) Chesapeake	(H) Hampton	(N) Norfolk
	(NN) Newport News	(P) Portsmouth	(S) Suffolk
	(VB) Virginia Beach	(W) Williamsburg	

ARTISTS BY GENRE

(Artists, venues, dates are subject to change)

THEATRE

A MidSummer Night's Dream

Lesley Ferris, director

JoAnn Falletta, conductor

Chrysler Hall (N)

April 21 | Thursday – 7:30 pm

April 23 | Saturday – 8:00 pm

April 24 | Sunday – 2:30 pm

\$75, \$58, \$48, \$38, \$34

Shakespeare's most magical comedy! An enchanting music theater treat for the mind, eyes and ears. Come along with Puck and the gang on this mostly magical, often comedic celebration of love-- a fantastical exploration of Shakespeare set to Mendelssohn---staged in the roaring 20's. This is a 'Midsummer' like you've never imagined.

STUDENT MATINEE (4/21)

Co-produced by the Virginia Arts Festival, Virginia Symphony Orchestra and Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

“A Prairie Home Companion” with Garrison Keillor

Live Broadcast

April 30 | Saturday

5:30 pm | Chrysler Hall (N)

\$65, \$45

America's foremost humorist and favorite storyteller returns to broadcast live his Saturday night public radio show for the third time. The news from Lake Wobegon will be heard by Keillor's 4.1 million listeners and in person by the Festival patrons who buy early!

Co-presented with WHRO/WHRV.

DANCE

Ballet Folklórico “Quetzalli” de Veracruz

April 26 | Tuesday

7:30 pm | Ferguson Center for the Arts, Christopher Newport University (NN)

\$35

Say ‘sí!’ to this authentic, exhilarating fiesta of Mexican folklore, presented by veteran dancers and musicians. They offer up “a heady rush of tapping heels, dazzling costumes and insistent rhythms.” – *Kansas City Star*

STUDENT MATINEE (4/26)

Richmond Ballet *Giselle*

with Virginia Symphony Orchestra

April 29 | Friday – 8 pm

May 1 | Sunday – 2:30 pm

Harrison Opera House (N)

\$60, \$45, \$35

Prepare to be dazzled by the energy and originality of the State Ballet of Virginia. The adventures of young Giselle, her supernatural gal pals, the Wilis, and ex-boyfriend Albrecht are the stuff of great storytelling and grand ballet.

**Martha Graham Dance Company
with Virginia Symphony Orchestra**

May 6 | Friday – 8 pm – Program I

May 8 | Sunday – 3 pm – Program II

Harrison Opera House (N)

\$60, \$45, \$35

Founded in 1926 by dancer/choreographer Martha Graham, who danced until the late 1960's, Graham called her dance 'contemporary' as it existed in relation to a contemporary world. Experience two performances, two programs!

STUDENT MATINEE (May 6)

Noche Flamenca

May 15 | Sunday

7:30 pm | Virginia Beach Town Center (VB)

\$35, \$25

Madrid's internationally recognized Noche Flamenca's vitality, energy and passion have won accolades around the globe for its purity and integrity of one of the worlds' most complex and mysterious art forms – flamenco. Noche Flamenca...“feels truer in atmosphere to the roots of the ancient Spanish form of music and dance...” -- *Dance Insider*

Koresh Dance Company

May 18 | Wednesday – 7:30 pm

King's Fork High School (S)

\$35, \$25

May 20 | Friday – 8:00 pm

Phi Beta Kappa Hall, College of William & Mary (W)

\$35

Philadelphia's Israeli-born Ronen Koresh's troupe will astound you with its exhilarating fusion of ballet, modern and jazz. “If you like your dancing hard, fast and intense, the

Koresh Dance Company is for you...liquidly sensual...clean...expressive gestures...imparting a richness of movement...there's a sheer physical joy to this allegrismo execution." ---*Philadelphia Inquirer*

STUDENT MATINEE (May 20)

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Young Audiences of Virginia co-presents

PRI's "From The Top"

April 27 | Wednesday

7:30 pm | Harrison Opera House (N)

\$25, \$20

Live and in person! It's host Christopher O'Riley and his popular show, dubbed "public radio's answer to MTV," by the *Boston Herald*. Enjoy the fun mix of pre-college age classical musicians in performance, lively interviews, lighthearted sketches, and musical games.

Paul Jacobs, organ

April 29 | Friday

8:00 pm | Christ & St. Luke's Church (N)

\$20

The *Chicago Tribune* hails this rising star as "one of the most supremely gifted organists of his generation." Heard on PRI's "Pipedreams," Jacobs is among the youngest members of Juilliard's esteemed faculty and now chairman of its organ department. He is simply a tour-de-force not to be missed.

Co-presented with Tidewater Chapter, American Guild of Organists

Virginia Arts Festival Wind Ensemble

John Duffy Composer-in-Residence

JoAnn Falletta, conductor

May 4 | Wednesday

7:30 pm | TCC Roper Performing Arts Center (N)

\$25

Experience the genius of Festival composer-in-residence, John Duffy, founder and president of *Meet the Composer*, an organization dedicated to the creation, performance, and recording of music by American composers. Composer of more than 300 works for

symphony orchestra, opera, theater, television and film, and two-time Emmy Award-winner, Duffy's music is "haunting, memorable, and brilliant," says the *Chicago Tribune*.

Itzhak Perlman, violin

Virginia Symphony Orchestra

JoAnn Falletta, conductor

May 7 | Saturday

8:00 pm | Chrysler Hall (N)

\$75

The world's reigning violin virtuoso and superstar returns to perform Beethoven in what promises to be his third sell-out Festival appearance. Subscribers get first chance (and maybe only) to buy!

STUDENT MATINEE – OPEN DRESS REHEARSAL (May 7)

Canadian Brass

May 13 | Friday – 7:30 pm

Phi Beta Kappa Hall, College of William & Mary (W)

\$35

May 14 | Saturday – 8:00 pm

Virginia Beach Town Center (VB)

\$35, \$25

Music. Passion. Joy. That's what this fab five's all about. The *Washington Post* says these "are the men who put brass music on the map. And they've had lots of fun doing it. With a repertoire spanning Bach to blues, in a word-- these guys are brilliant!"

STUDENT MATINEE (May 12 & May 13)

Friday's performance is co-presented with the College of William & Mary.

JoAnn Falletta and Friends

with Tidewater Guitar Orchestra

May 17 | Tuesday

7:30 pm | TCC Roper Performing Arts Center (N)

\$30

Hailed, "one of the finest conductors of her generation," by *The New York Times*, the first love of VSO's esteemed music director was the classical guitar. Falletta will captivate

Festival patrons as she takes up her guitar, performing specially selected works with her colleagues.

This concert in previous Festivals has sold-out very early!

Co-presented with the Tidewater Classical Guitar Society

Festival Finale:

Tchaikovsky Spectacular

featuring *1812 Overture*

with Virginia Symphony Orchestra

JoAnn Falletta, conductor

May 22 | Sunday

7:00 pm | The Sunken Garden, College of William & Mary (W)

\$35, \$25, (covered seating) \$10 (lawn seating, bring your own chair)

CHAMBER MUSIC

Lunchtime Chamber Music I

April 29 | Friday

12:00 Noon | First Lutheran Church (N)

\$17

Now a Festival favorite, this is the first of four Lunchtime Chamber Music concerts. This year's roster of artists includes André-Michel Schub along with Miami String Quartet, Imani Winds and Virginia Chamber Players. Many of these concerts are enjoyed 'round the country, courtesy of National Public Radio's "Performance Today" broadcasts. Specific programming and artists to be announced.

Eroica Trio

Sunday | May 1 – 7:30 pm

Great Bridge Presbyterian Church (C)

Monday | May 2 – 7:30 pm

Ferguson Center for the Arts, Christopher Newport University (NN)

\$25

Electrifying the concert stage with their combination of technical virtuosity, vivid artistic interpretation and contagious exuberance, this Grammy-nominated trio is on the vanguard of a new generation of artists who are changing the face of classical music.

Imani Winds

May 3 | Tuesday

7:30 pm | Attucks Theatre (N)
\$20

One of the U.S.'s only African-American/Latino chamber music groups, the Imani Winds' classical music rocks! Committed to making music accessible, "Imani" means faith in Swahili. This NYC-based wind quintet received rave reviews during last year's Festival!

Lunchtime Chamber Music V

May 15 | Thursday

2:30 pm | Dr. Mary T. Christian Auditorium, Thomas Nelson Community College (H)
\$17

Lunchtime Chamber Music II

May 6 | Friday

12:00 Noon | Trinity Episcopal Church (P)
\$17

Tokyo String Quartet

May 8 | Sunday

7:30 pm | Trinity Episcopal Church (P)
\$30

For more than three decades, this ensemble has been regarded as "one of the best string quartets in the world." (*NRC Handelsblad*, Hamburg) Since 1976, its members have served as quartet-in-residence at Yale's School of Music. This amazing foursome performs on "The Paganini Quartet," Stradivarius instruments named for virtuoso Niccolò Paganini, who owned and played them during the 19th century

Co-presented with Feldman Chamber Music Society.

Smithsonian Chamber Players

May 10 | Tuesday

7:30 pm | Chrysler Museum Theater (N)
\$30

Come to the Chrysler Museum's theater and hear music played on the Smithsonian's priceless Stradivarius strings by the Smithsonian Chamber Players. A rare treat as only 650 of the 18th-century Italian master Antonio Stradivari's estimated 1,100 instruments (violins, harps, guitars, violas and cellos) are believed to survive today.

Evening Chamber Music

May 11 | Wednesday

7:30 pm | St. Paul's Episcopal Church (S)

\$25

Lunchtime Chamber Music III

May 13 | Friday

12:00 Noon | First Presbyterian Church (VB)

\$17

Lunchtime Chamber Music IV

May 18 | Wednesday

12:00 Noon | Chrysler Museum Theater (N)

\$17

VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO

Virginia International Tattoo

April 22 | Friday – 7:30 pm

April 23 | Saturday – 7:30 pm

April 24 | Sunday – 2:30 pm

Scope (N)

\$45, \$40, \$30, \$20

Inspired by the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and the Nova Scotia Tattoo, our tattoo is the largest in the U.S. This year, we'll pay special tribute to WWII veterans.

STUDENT MATINEE (4/22)

JAZZ, BLUES, BROADWAY, VOCAL MUSIC

Port Folio Weekly's Series: **Tierney Sutton**

April 28 | Thursday

7:30 pm | Granby Theatre (N)

\$25

After singing for five years in cities around the world, Bostonian Tierney Sutton has only recently become the next big thing in jazz. Her beauty, wit and technically superior voice have delighted crowds and impressed even the most critical musicians.

Port Folio Weekly's Series: **Elements Quartet**

May 5 | Thursday

7:30 pm | Granby Theatre (N)

\$25

Just as their name, Elements, has multiplicity of meanings and messages, this contemporary and eclectic ensemble brings fresh insights into how chamber music – from popular masterpieces and neglected treasures to newly commissioned works by today's most celebrated composers – can connect with today's listeners.

Port Folio Weekly's Series: **Gary Burton's "Generations"**

May 12 | Thursday

7:30 pm | Granby Theatre (N)

\$25

Five-time Grammy winner Gary Burton, along with his quintet, are shaking things up in the jazz world with their latest project "Generations." With new material and new versions of Gary's repertoire, you'll find blissful melody with refined lyricism while dazzling with improvisational energy. "These guys can burn a solo like nobody's business" – *Philadelphia Weekly*.

Port Folio Weekly's Series: **Chris Smither / Willy Porter**

May 19 | Thursday

7:30 pm | Granby Theatre (N)

\$25

Stereo Review says of these two: "folk blues in the ethereal language of the poet, projecting a kind of streetwise mysticism." and "blues-based open-tuned funk." You'll soon hear why we have double-billed these peerless artists on this the fourth Thursday of the new Port Folio Series. It will be a musical evening on Granby to remember!

Broadway Under the Stars

featuring music of Gershwin, Rodgers and Bernstein

Rob Fisher, conductor

May 21 | Saturday

8:00 pm | The Sunken Garden, College of William & Mary (W)

\$35, \$25, (covered seating) \$10 (lawn seating, bring your own chair)

Rain or shine

FAMILY

Virginia International Tattoo

Scope (N)

April 22 | Friday – 7:30 pm

April 23 | Saturday – 7:30 pm

April 24 | Sunday – 2:30 pm

\$45, \$40, \$30, \$20

Inspired by the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and the Nova Scotia Tattoo, our tattoo is the largest in the U.S. This year, we'll pay special tribute to WWII veterans.

STUDENT MATINEE (4/22)

The Kennedy Center

IMAGINATION CELEBRATION® on Tour Presents

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

April 30 | Saturday

1:00 pm | TCC Roper Performing Arts Center (N)

3:30 pm | TCC Roper Performing Arts Center (N)

\$14

Time travels, Mark Twain style. It's 1840, St. Petersburg, Missouri. A simpler time and place. Twain's classic coming of age tale, starring literature's most famous teen hero, Tom Sawyer, and his lovable renegade pal, Huck Finn, comes alive anew with music, comedy, song and dance.

A Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration® On Tour Production

STUDENT MATINEE (4/29)

Imani Winds Family Concert

May 7 | Saturday

11:00 am and 1:00 pm | Children's Museum of Virginia (P)

\$14 (includes museum admission)

Returning for their second Festival appearance, Imani's magical musicians will introduce the instruments of a wind quintet; flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and horn, entertaining with music stories and lots of audience interaction!

Co-presented with Children's Museum of Virginia

Blue Hair with Peter Cutts

May 8 | Sunday

1:00 p.m. and 3:00 pm | Children's Museum of Virginia (P)

\$14 (includes museum admission)

Weaving poetry, music, imaginative storytelling and strong visual images, Peter Cutts transforms himself into a host of different characters using props and costumes on his quest to find "Blue Hair." A perfect afternoon for the family!

Co-presented with Children's Museum of Virginia

FUN – OUTDOORS

PANorama Caribbean Music Fest

May 13 – 15 | Friday – Sunday

Virginia Beach Oceanfront

Come celebrate everything Caribbean at the third annual festival centered on the music and culture of the Caribbea, rooted in the Steel Band. Events staged at the oceanfront in Virginia Beach. Come one, come all. It's way fun!

Virginia Beer Festival

May 14 | Saturday

2:00-6:00 pm | Town Point Park (N)

\$15 (advance price)

This 4th Annual Beer Festival featuring cold brews from international and domestic breweries promises to be another fun-filled Saturday afternoon at Waterside's Town Point Park. Rain or Shine!

Co-produced with FestEvents

FESTIVAL WILLIAMSBURG

May 20-22 | Friday – Sunday

Festival Williamsburg

Koresh Dance Company

May 20 | Friday

8:00 pm | Phi Beta Kappa Hall, College of William & Mary (W)

\$35

Philadelphia's Israeli-born Ronen Koresh's troupe will astound you with its exhilarating fusion of ballet, modern and jazz. "If you like your dancing hard, fast and intense, the Koresh Dance Company is for you...liquidly sensual...clean...expressive gestures...imparting a richness of movement...there's a sheer physical joy to this allegro execution." ---*Philadelphia Inquirer*

STUDENT MATINEE (May 20)

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featuring music of Gershwin, Rodgers and Bernstein

Rob Fisher, conductor

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Rain or shine

Festival Finale:

Tchaikovsky Spectacular

featuring *1812 Overture*

with Virginia Symphony Orchestra

JoAnn Falletta, conductor

May 22 | Sunday

7:00 pm | The Sunken Garden, College of William & Mary (W)

\$35, \$25, (covered seating) \$10 (lawn seating, bring your own chair)

Rain or shine

FOR TICKETS

Subscriptions available NOW....4 or more events.

Single tickets on sale February 18, 2005

In person – Virginia Arts Festival Box Office – MacArthur Center

By telephone – 757-282-2822

By fax – 757-282-2787

By mail – Virginia Arts Festival Box Office, PO Box 3595, Norfolk, VA 23514

On-line – www.vafest.com

VIRGINIA ROVER

Victory Rover Naval Base Cruises Starting 5th Season. Rover Cruises is pleased to announce that sight seeing cruises aboard the Victory Rover will begin again on Tuesday, March 1st. The Victory Rover offers daily 2 Hour Narrated Cruises of the Norfolk Naval Base. Cruises depart from Nauticus, the National Maritime Center, home of the Battleship Wisconsin in Downtown Norfolk. Guests are entertained with a fascinating commentary about the ships of the World's Largest Navy Base. Weather is never a problem as guests can enjoy the sights from the climate controlled main cabin. Combo tickets which offer discounted admission for the cruise and Nauticus are available.

Rover Cruises operates both the Victory Rover and the American Rover Tall Ship cruises from the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront.

(757) 627-7406

www.navalbasecruises.com

Ticket Prices: Victory Rover

Adults \$15

VIRGINIA STAGE COMPANY

With something for everyone, the upcoming season promises to be the most exiting yet! Season tickets are now on sale, and they are going quickly. The following is our line-up for the 26th season:

Vincent in Brixton, by Nicholas Wright

February 27-March 20, 2005

We all know Van Gogh's sunflowers and starry skies, but what experiences propelled him to his immortality? In this recent Broadway hit, we see Vincent as a young man, living in the London suburb of Brixton as a boarder in the home of a widow, Ursula Loyer. Using this historical fact as his starting point, Wright paints an intimate portrait of a love affair between the young artist and the older woman who inspired his emotional and artistic awakening.

Treasure Island, by Robert Louis Stevenson and adapted by Timothy Mason

April 3-April 24, 2005

One of the great adventure novels of all times, Robert Lewis Stevenson's timeless story is brought to life on stage. Jim Hawkins is left with a treasure map, and hires a ship to sail to the island to find the gold. Little does he know that his ship is staffed by pirates, lead by the one-legged cook Long John Silver who plans on killing Jim and stealing the loot. With swash-buckling action on the high seas, this one promises to be a load of fun for the entire family.

Fight Directors from Across the Nation Converge on the Wells Theatre as *Treasure Island* Takes the Stage at VSC

Virginia Stage Company presents Robert Louis Stevenson's timeless classic *Treasure Island* adapted for the stage by Timothy Mason and directed by world-renowned fight director David Doersch. One of the great adventure novels of all times, Robert Louis Stevenson's classic is brought to life on stage. Jim Hawkins is left with a treasure map, and hires a ship to sail to the island to find the gold. Little does he know that his ship is staffed by pirates, lead by the one-legged Long John Silver who plans on killing Jim and stealing the loot. With swash-buckling action on the high seas, this show promises to be a load of fun for the entire family.

The production runs from April 3 to April 24, 2005. Tickets to *Treasure Island* range in price from \$8 to \$42.50, with April 3 serving as a Pay-What-You-Can night. *Treasure Island* will also mark the third VSC production to use the recently announced Best Ticket in Town promotion. All tickets to the preview performances (April 5-7) will be sold for \$8. Tickets may be purchased at the VSC Box Office, by calling (757) 627-1234 or online at www.vastage.com.

In a cast of sixteen (by far the largest production this season), four cast members are well-known fight directors, and several are movement specialists with training from places such as the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theatre. "We have brought in a dream team of a cast for this production," states Keith Stava, VSC's Managing Director. "Take the talent we have amassed and add in swords, gun battles, live music, a parrot and huge flying scenery and you get a terrifically entertaining production."

Christopher Hanna, VSC's Artistic Director commented, "*Treasure Island* is the adventure story of all time, and it's fitting for this production to be such an adventure for our company. Watching the stage action take shape is so intriguing, even for me, that I wish we could even sell tickets to the rehearsals."

Director David Doersch is a founding member of the International Order of the Sword and the Pen, an international stage combat association bringing together fight professionals from all corners of the globe. His work has been seen on the Guthrie stage in such shows as *Macbeth*, *Othello*, in JoAnne Akalaitis' acclaimed production of *The Rover* and in Garland Wright's much lauded version of *As You Like It*. His other regional theatrical credits include work at the Dallas Theatre Center, the Crossroads Theatre, American Players Theater and many others from coast to coast. Mr. Doersch is a highly regarded instructor of staged violence as well, traveling and teaching at universities and training programs throughout the United States, Canada, Britain, Sweden, Estonia, Egypt, South Africa and most recently Japan.

Recent Broadway and London Play Explores Life of Mysterious Artist. Virginia Stage Company presents Nicholas Wright's recent Broadway hit and London's Olivier

Award Winning play *Vincent in Brixton* directed by Denver Center Theater's Associate Artist Anthony Powell. We all know Van Gogh's sunflowers and starry skies, but what experiences propelled him to his immortality? In *Vincent in Brixton*, we see Vincent Van Gogh as a young man, living in the London suburb of Brixton as a boarder in the home of a widow, Ursula Loyer. Using this historical fact as his starting point, Wright paints an intimate portrait of a love affair between the young artist and the older woman who inspired his emotional and artistic awakening.

The production runs from February 27 to March 20, 2005. Tickets to *Vincent in Brixton* range in price from \$8 to \$42.50, with February 27 serving as a Pay-What-You-Can night. *Vincent in Brixton* will also mark the second VSC production to use the recently announced Best Ticket in Town promotion. All tickets to the preview performances (Jan. 18-20) will be sold for \$8. Tickets to all performances may be purchased at the VSC Box Office, by calling (757) 627-1234 or online at www.vastage.com.

The scenario upon which the play is based was gleaned from letters written by Van Gogh and his family as a stepping-off point. "I was encouraged by an intriguing six-month gap in Vincent's surviving letters and by the well-known tendency of young men writing home to be less than frank about their most formative experiences," said Wright. The play traces the transforming effects of love, sex and youthful adventure on Van Gogh's still-unformed talent.

Vincent in Brixton won two of London's Olivier Awards in 2003, including for Best Play and was nominated for two Broadway Tony Awards in the same year, including Best Play. Originally produced by the Royal National Theater in London, England, *Vincent in Brixton* garnered praise from some of the world's most influential reviewers. "This is biodrama of a high order," cheered Daily Telegraph reviewer Charles Spencer, calling it "a fascinating, funny and sometimes deeply moving Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man." "This is Wright's best play," added John Peter in the Sunday Times of London, "and one of the best new plays ever presented at the Royal National Theatre." "I loved it," raved Alastair Macaulay in The Financial Times. "Nicholas Wright has written an enthralling play."

"*Vincent in Brixton* provides a rare glimpse at the ingredients that underlie an artist's passion. It marks an unusual opportunity for Hampton Roads audiences that will be as compelling as it is insightful," commented Chris Hanna, VSC's Artistic Director.

Director Anthony Powell comes to Virginia Stage Company from the world-renowned Denver Center Theater, with which he has had an 18 year association both as an actor and director. Powell first began his professional career touring the United States with John Houseman's The Acting Company. Directing credits with Denver Center Theater include *The Merchant of Venice*, *Visiting Mr. Green*, *Blue/Orange*, *Copenhagen*, *Love's Labor's Lost*, *The Lonesome West*, *Betrayal*, *Hamlet*, *A Skull in Connemara*, *Wit*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Beauty Queen of Leane*, *The Tempest*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*,

Misalliance, Macbeth, Three Tall Women, Racing Demon, The Dresser, The Last Yankee, Oleanna and Someone Who'll Watch Over Me.

BENEFITS OF SEASON TICKETS:

- *Get one play free...5 great plays for the price of 4!
- *Dining Discounts....special offers to great local restaurants
- *Family & Friends Discounts...\$5 off additional tickets for your guests
- *Easy ticket exchange in the event of a schedule conflict
- *Free replacement of lost or stolen tickets
- *Priority notice of special events

For more information about our upcoming season, or to purchase tickets, please visit www.vastage.com or call 627-1234.

ZOO

Your Virginia Zoo Presents: Scales, Tails and Shells 2005!

Come celebrate the arrival of spring at your Virginia Zoo with **Scales, Tails and Shells 2005!** This fun and educational look at animals and eggs will be held **Saturday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Guests can discover the many life forms, from scales to tails that come from eggs. **Radio Disney 1650AM** will be at the Zoo from **12- 2 p.m.** with Radio Disney prizes and games.

Live demonstrations throughout the day will illustrate how keepers increase animal activity and promote natural behaviors through enrichment programs. Activity stations, games, and docent presentations will also be available for guests to enjoy.

All programs and activities are included in paid general admission. Your Virginia Zoo is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and located at 3500 Granby Street in Norfolk. Log onto www.virginiazoo.org or call (757) 441-2374 for more information.

Admission: Adults: \$6.00; Sr. Citizens: \$5.00; Children (ages 2-11): \$4.00. Under 2 is free. Open daily from 10:00 – 5:00

Zoo members always free.

City Living, Norfolk Style Lecture Series

The Norfolk Neighborhood Design and Resource Center, together with the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, are sponsoring a series of lectures that cover various aspects of housing, preservation, design, remodeling and renovation in Norfolk. **Join us the third Thursday of each month at 7 in the evening.**

April 21, 2005

Landscaping

Speaker: Billy Almond, WPL

May 19, 2005

Financing Your Renovation/Remodeling Project

Speaker: A panel of lenders from various local financial institutions

June 16, 2005

Zoning and Sustainable Neighborhoods

Speaker: Lenny Newcomb, City of Norfolk

TBD

The Painted Ladies-A Closer Look at the Victorian Style

Speaker: Greg Rutledge of Hanbury Evans Wright and Vlattas

ADMISSION is FREE and Open to the Public. All lectures are held at the Neighborhood Design and Resource Center located at 111 Granby Street, downtown Norfolk.

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Andrew Northcutt at 664-6784 or andrew.northcutt@norfolk.gov. For a complete schedule of upcoming lectures visit www.norfolk.gov/planning/comehome/City_Living_Lecture_Series.asp.



100 Recommended Children's Books

1. **Harry Potter (series)** by J. K. Rowling
2. **Goosebumps (series)** by R. L. Stine
3. **Green Eggs and Ham** by Dr. Seuss
4. **The Cat in the Hat** by Dr. Seuss
5. **Arthur (series)** by Marc Brown
6. **Charlotte's Web** by E. B. White
7. **Shiloh (trilogy)** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
8. **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen
9. **Holes** by Louis Sachar
10. **The Giver** by Lois Lowry
11. **The Chronicles of Narnia** by C. S. Lewis
12. **Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (series)** by Judy Blume
13. **Sideways Stories from Wayside School (series)** by Louis Sachar
14. **The BFG** by Roald Dahl
15. **The Boxcar Children (series)** by Gertrude Chandler Warner
16. **One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish** by Dr. Seuss
17. **Ramona Quimby, Age 8 (series)** by Beverly Cleary
18. **Pokemon (series)** by Tracey West, Maria S. Barbo
19. **The Babysitters Club (series)** by Ann M. Martin
20. **Ralph S. Mouse (series)** by Beverly Cleary
21. **Little House on the Prairie (series)** by Laura Ingalls Wilder
22. **Where the Sidewalk Ends** by Shel Silverstein
23. **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** by Roald Dahl
24. **The Giving Tree** by Shel Silverstein
25. **Clifford the Big Red Dog (series)** by Norman Bridwell
26. **Stuart Little** by E. B. White
27. **Where the Red Fern Grows** by Wilson Rawls
28. **The Adventures of Captain Underpants (series)** by Dav Pilkey
29. **The Polar Express** by Chris Van Allsburg
30. **The Berenstain Bears (series)** by Jan and Stan Berenstain
31. **Animorphs (series)** by K. A. Applegate
32. **The Witches** by Roald Dahl
33. **Nancy Drew Mystery Stories** by Carolyn Keene
34. **The Hobbit (series)** by J. R. R. Tolkien
35. **American Girls (series)** by Susan Adler, Valerie Tripp, Connie Porter, Janet Shaw, et al
36. **Matilda** by Roald Dahl
37. **The Call of the Wild** by Jack London
38. **The Foot Book** by Dr. Seuss
39. **How the Grinch Stole Christmas** by Dr. Seuss
40. **James and the Giant Peach** by Roald Dahl
41. **Junie B. Jones (series)** by Barbara Park
42. **Stone Fox** by John Reynolds Gardiner
43. **Falling Up** by Shel Silverstein
44. **A Wrinkle in Time (series)** by Madeleine L'Engle
45. **Brian's Winter** by Gary Paulsen
46. **Amber Brown (series)** by Paula Danziger
47. **The North Star** by Peter H. Reynolds
48. **Have a Nice Day: A Tale of Blood and Sweatsocks** by Mick Foley (Mankind)
49. **Number the Stars** by Lois Lowry
50. **The Outsiders** by S. E. Hinton
51. **A Light in the Attic** by Shel Silverstein
52. **Chicken Soup for the Soul (series)** by various authors
53. **Curious George (series)** by Margret and Hans Augusto Rey
54. **The Teacher from the Black Lagoon (series)** by Mike Thaler
55. **If You Give a Mouse a Cookie** by Laura Joffe Numeroff
56. **The Bailey School Kids (series)** by Debbie Dadey, et al
57. **The Hardy Boys (series)** by Franklin W. Dixon
58. **The Mitten** by Jan Brett
59. **Amelia Bedelia (series)** by Peggy Parish
60. **Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH** by Robert C. O'Brien
61. **Island of the Blue Dolphins** by Scott O'Dell
62. **Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott
63. **Mr. Popper's Penguins** by Richard Atwater
64. **The River** by Gary Paulsen
65. **Magic Tree House (series)** by Mary Pope Osborne
66. **The True Story of the Three Little Pigs** by John Scieszka

67. **Bridge to Terabithia** by Katherine Paterson
68. **Hop on Pop** by Dr. Seuss
69. **The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh** by A. A. Milne
70. **Tuck Everlasting** by Natalie Babbitt
71. **Redwall** by Brian Jacques
72. **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** by Barbara Robinson
73. **Where the Wild Things Are** by Maurice Sendak
74. **Wringer** by Jerry Spinelli
75. **Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret** by Judy Blume
76. **Dear Mr. Henshaw** by Beverly Cleary
77. **Summer of the Monkeys** by Wilson Rawls
78. **Sweet Valley High (series)** by Francine Pascal
79. **The Adventures of Mary-Kate and Ashley (series)** by Judy Katschke, Cathy Dobowski, Lisa Eisenberg, Nancy E. Krulik, Nina Alexander, Frances Lin Lantz, et al
80. **Garfield (series)** by Jim Davis
81. **Magic School Bus (series)** by Joanna Cole
82. **Math Curse** by John Scieszka
83. **White Fang** by Jack London
84. **I Spy (series)** by Walter Wick, Jean Marzollo, Diana Noonan, et al
85. **Love You Forever** by Robert N. Munsch
86. **My Side of the Mountain** by Jean Craighead George
87. **The Trumpet of the Swan** by E. B. White
88. **Walk Two Moons** by Sharon Creech
89. **Draw 50 Airplanes, Aircraft and Spacecraft (series)** by Lee J. Ames
90. **Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown
91. **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer** by Mark Twain
92. **The Rock Says** by Dwayne Johnson (The Rock)
93. **Tikki Tikki Tembo** by Arlene Mosel
94. **To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee
95. **All About Sam** by Lois Lowry
96. **Black Beauty** by Anna Sewell
97. **Ella Enchanted** by Gail Carson Levine
98. **Hank the Cow Dog (series)** by John R. Erickson
99. **Piggie Pie** by Margie Palatini
100. **Sarah, Plain and Tall** by Patricia MacLachl

